





## Homework at 81 / A College for Senior Citizens Blooms

## It's Never Too Late to Study Shakespeare

By Jon Jeter  
Washington Post Service

**N**ORTHFIELD, Minnesota — Spring quarter at the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium began last week. Students made their way to classes rather slowly, but hardly anyone was late. Some came in wheelchairs, others used walkers. Some steadied themselves by leaning on friends, arriving arm-in-arm with a classmate.

Blind in one eye, Julia Savina sat pitched forward in her seat, using a magnifying glass to read the course syllabus she had just been handed. The instructor prints everything in extra large type for the students in his technology class, but Mrs. Savina still needs a little help seeing.

She is 81.

Last semester, she enrolled in a course on Amish history but had to drop out when she fell and hurt her hip. The retired schoolteacher returned to her studies after four weeks of physical therapy.

"My husband died in 1995, and I really need this mental stimulation," Mrs. Savina said, easing into a chair to talk after class. "I had so much fun last term learning to write poetry, which I never thought I could do."

Gray-haired and frail, she smiles as she leans back into her chair. "You can only play so much bingo, you know."

And so it goes here at perhaps the only institution of higher education in the United States designed specifically for the aged. The students' bodies may be weakened, but their spirits are willing. If some are hard of hearing, their minds are hungry still.

The Cannon Valley Elder Collegium opened last fall in this cozy little two-college town 40 miles (65 kilometers) south of Minneapolis. A group of retired professors and academics rounded up roughly \$8,000 in government grants and recruited nearly 30 of the former faculty members who live in town to teach college-level courses with titles such as "The Drama of Henrik Ibsen," "Goethe's Faust" and "The Fur Trade in North America." No arts and crafts here.

Enrollment this quarter has jumped to about 50 students, most of whom are over 65 and many of whom are in their 80s, although no one knows for sure because "at our age, we don't go around asking people how old they are," said Ron Ronning, 68, a retired high school humanities teacher and the collegium's program director.

Collegium students can receive continuing education credits, but no grades are given, no degrees conferred. No one here is looking for any of that.

"Everyone here really wants to be here," said George Soule, a retired literature professor who is teaching "Hamlet" to eight students this quarter. "They're not looking for a better job or to further their career by being here. They're not here to impress their parents. All they want to do is learn."

At the Elder Collegium, there are no fraternities, no backpacks, no baseball caps worn backward, no hung-over students nodding off in the classroom. Students here are more likely to wear orthopedic shoes than Nikes, hearing aids than earrings. Each class lasts for eight weeks and costs \$30, and the source of students' financial aid is more likely to be a pension than a parent or a grant. Most of the students who enrolled in a course on the Depression last quarter had actually lived through it.

As America's elderly live longer, the number of people 65 or older enrolled in college courses has risen steadily over the last decade. Hazel Reinhardt, director of marketing research at the Newspaper Management Center of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, said the trend was likely to accelerate in years to come as the baby



Julia Savino, above, using a magnifying glass to read course notes: "My husband died in 1995, and I really need this mental stimulation. I had so much fun last term learning to write poetry. You can only play so much bingo, you know."

boomer generation, with its higher rate of education, moved into retirement. "I think this whole area is one that is going to develop," she said.

With two highly regarded liberal arts colleges in town — Carleton and St. Olaf — the quaint, bucolic locale of Northfield is home to an uncommon brain trust: Of nearly 15,000 residents, about 150 are retired professors. A road sign on the periphery of this learned but fun-loving town bills Northfield as a place for "cows, colleges and contentment."

"Everybody here is in a book club or two," Mr. Ronning said. He said he and his wife, Betty, had attended casual group discussions held at senior citizen centers that "frankly, we found a little patronizing."

"It's as if people think that seniors are either unwilling or unable to engage in serious study. The collegium provides just that. There are assignments, and people come prepared."

**T**HE COURSE ON "Hamlet" is held at Northfield's Retirement Center. Eight students at a conference table pay rapt attention to Mr. Soule, a white-haired, animated man who lectures at a rapid-fire pace on Shakespeare.

"His characters tend to be very complex," Mr. Soule says. "They're far deeper than many people I've known in real life."

Mr. Soule engages his students in a discussion of the play's opening verse. Virtually all of the students in the classroom contribute something to the dialogue. One of Mr. Soule's students is Marilyn Will, 59, a retired schoolteacher whose former students include Mr. Soule's daughter, now 31. Widowed two years ago, Mrs. Will enrolled in two courses last quarter. She came back for more this quarter and

brought along a friend, 81-year-old Jane Eckardt.

"I have always loved education from both sides of the desk," said Mrs. Will, who first attended college 40 years ago. "I just came to class expecting to be filled up back then. Now I feel as though I have something to contribute to the class and to the discussion."

As she said this, an exaggerated grimace spread across Mrs. Eckardt's face. "It won't be any different for me," said Mrs. Eckardt, who first enrolled in college in 1934. "I still expect to just be filled up. I'm dead between the ears."

Mrs. Will smiled at her friend's familiar, self-deprecating brand of humor. The two women taught school together and have been friends for a quarter century. "Our husbands were friends," Mrs. Eckardt said. "We gave each other advice on our kids." She leaned forward and lowered her voice. "We tried to figure out what was wrong with them."

During a break, Mrs. Will told Mrs. Eckardt she would pick up a copy of "Hamlet" for her. "I'll just shop for both of us, and you can lay the money on me later," she said to her older friend.

Mrs. Eckardt paused. "Did I remember to lay money on you for my registration?" she asked.

"Yes, you did," Mrs. Will reassured her.

"That gets to be a problem when you're 81," Mrs. Eckardt said.

At his wife's urging, 66-year-old Donald Krause enrolled in "Cultural Conversations." On Tuesday evenings, he'll debate topics such as the role of an activist federal judiciary with his peers and a group of local high school students. "This is fun," said Mr. Krause, a retired schoolteacher. "You know, most senior citizens aren't just waiting to die. We can actually discover a thing or two."

## U.S. Air Traffic Routes To Get Broad Redesign

By Matthew L. Wald  
New York Times Service

**WASHINGTON** — Hoping to cut down on delays for passengers and on the noise endured by people on the ground, the Federal Aviation Administration plans to redesign air traffic routes around the country, starting with the highly congested New York area.

The effort was disclosed by Jane Garvey, the agency's administrator, after meeting with New Jersey lawmakers who have been pressing the government for a thorough overhaul of how air traffic is handled in the region.

At a news conference Monday in Newark, New Jersey, she said that her agency had been planning since last fall to analyze the routes and to begin "with a blank piece of paper." She said the effort would begin in the region in July.

Newark had the worst air delays in the nation last year and has ranked the worst in nine of the last 14 years.

"People are sick and tired of the mess that the aviation system is in," said Senator Frank Lautenberg, who was among the lawmakers who met with Ms. Garvey. "They are terribly upset about the delays. People have missed appointments, missed conferences and missed connections."

Mr. Lautenberg also recounted a tale that will sound familiar to any airline passenger. He said that he had "gotten into airplanes that were an hour late in their departure and arrived at Newark and sat 45 minutes waiting for a gate."

Several aviation agency officials said they believe this is the agency's first plan for a nationwide review, although routes on the East Coast were redrawn in 1987. The new effort is expected to take several years and cost tens of millions of dollars, but changes could take effect before the plan is finished.

Ms. Garvey said the idea had been to focus first on the eastern United States, in an area roughly bounded by Boston, Chicago and Miami, because its airspace is the most congested and most prone to delays.

FAA officials said that the redesign had been under discussion for months, but that no public announcement had been made and none had been planned. It was only after Mr. Lautenberg and Representatives William Pascrell Jr. and Robert Menendez — all New Jersey Democrats — escorted Ms. Garvey to a lecture outside the Port Authority administration building at Newark International Airport that the plans became public.

Airspace around Newark has been rearranged before, mostly in an effort to limit noise. A six-month experiment began a month ago, with planes that leave runway 22 making a shallow right turn 2.3 miles (4 kilometers) from the end of the runway, to keep them over an industrial area of Elizabeth, Rahway and Carteret and away from residential areas.

And the federal agency occasionally changes higher-altitude routes, including arrival and departure patterns, to try to reduce congestion.

But controllers say congestion is growing, especially in the New York region.

"We have a portion of airspace that is just oversaturated," said Joseph Fruscella, a vice president of the National

Air Traffic Controllers' Association. "We have to start doing something, because traffic is not dying down; it is increasing."

The aviation administration would like to change the way planes are directed in flight. Most of them fly on air routes stacked out from radio beacon to radio beacon, on paths that resemble railroad tracks.

Rather than going from city to city as the crow flies, they sometimes go many miles out of their way. Eventually, the agency would like to move to "free flight," with each plane picking its own route and controllers intervening only when a conflict seems imminent. But that system would take major improvements in agency computers.

The review is unusual because it covers all altitudes. When the aviation administration reviews flight path changes to reduce noise, it considers planes at altitudes up to 18,000 feet, or more than three miles.

But if it changes patterns below that level, it will also have to change routes above that level, experts say, because planes will be crossing the 18,000-foot level in different places.

Newark, La Guardia and Kennedy Airports together handle nearly 5,000 flights a day, nearly a tenth the national total. While it can take hours to move from one airport to another on the ground, they are too close for comfort from the air, and their traffic patterns distort each other's.

But Newark, with huge growth in the last few years, is the worst of the three.

## TRAVEL UPDATE

## Snow Cripples Moscow

**MOSCOW (AP)** — The heaviest mid-April snowfall in the Russian capital in at least a hundred years continued to wreak havoc Tuesday, clogging traffic and grounding flights at Moscow airports.

By Tuesday morning, Moscow was covered with some 30 centimeters (12 inches) of snow that began falling Sunday night, the weather forecast service said.

## Pilots' Strike: Day 9

**TOKYO (AP)** — A pilots' strike grounded several All Nippon Airways international flights Tuesday for the ninth straight day.

The airline said it was losing 200 million yen (\$1.5 million) a day as the dispute over wages continued.

Near-collisions between aircraft have doubled since the early 1990s, Britain's Civil Aviation Authority said. There were 26 such incidents involving commercial aircraft in 1996, up from 19 in 1995 and 13 in 1992 and 1993, the agency said.

Olympic Airways canceled more flights at Athens due to worker protests at Greece's troubled national carrier.

Tarom, the Romanian national airline, said it would add a stop in Satu Mare, in western Romania, to its Satu Mare-Bucharest-New York flight. (AP)

## Gore Lists Priorities for Airline Safety

By Matthew L. Wald  
New York Times Service

**WASHINGTON** — Vice President Al Gore announced priorities for airline safety Tuesday to help the airline industry and the Federal Aviation Administration focus on such efforts as more rigorous checks of engine parts, new equipment to help planes avoid flying into mountains and a campaign to increase seat-belt use.

The announcement was intended to help meet a goal set last year by the White House Commission on Aviation Safety and Security: to reduce fatal accidents by 80 percent.

A high-ranking administration official said that the effort was aimed at choosing among improvements already under consideration.

"We're running around trying to do a zillion different things," the official said, "and

as the winds blow in different directions, our priorities change. We've got too many things on our plate to do."

Another official stressed that the priority list being established was "a living document" that would change if a new crash showed another safety problem.

FAA officials said they wanted to rely more heavily on analysis of past accidents and incidents, rather than simply the most recent crash, in setting priorities in the future but that they would have to improve their databases.

Jane Garvey, the administrator of the FAA, has made a similar point about setting priorities. She said in December that when she arrived at the agency, she found more than 1,000 safety recommendations on hand.

Among the improvements announced was a program to inspect engine parts more

closely to prevent accidents in which rotating parts fly apart, flinging turbine blades like missiles into passengers in the cabin or into crucial mechanical parts.

In addition, Mr. Gore said that the agency would promulgate a rule requiring planes to carry new equipment for warning of possible collisions with mountains. Several big airlines have already promised to install such equipment, but smaller ones have not.

The new equipment is intended to eliminate a class of accidents called "controlled flight into terrain," in which a plane, usually flying through darkness or clouds, is piloted into a mountain because of navigation errors.

Planes already have systems that look down and warn the pilot if the plane seems too low, but in the mountains the terrain can rise rapidly to

meet the plane. The newer equipment compares the plane's location with a global database of mountains, in effect looking forward rather than down.

Experts say that the crash last year of a Korean Airlines plane in Guam and the American Airlines crash near Cali, Colombia, in December 1995, could have been avoided with such equipment.

The agency also plans to reopen discussions with airlines about reducing the toll of deaths and injuries from turbulence, officials said. Two airlines, American and United, recently said they planned to tell passengers that they must keep their belts fastened whenever they are in their seats, although passengers may still stand and walk in the aisles when the seat-belt light is off.

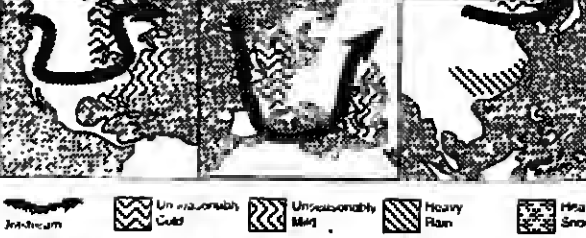
It was not clear whether the FAA will make that a rule.

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## WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe	Today	Low	High	Tomorrow	Low	High
Amsterdam	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
London	12-18	9-12	15-18	13-19	10-13	16-19
Paris	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Rome	16-22	13-16	19-22	17-23	14-17	20-23
Madrid	18-24	15-18	21-24	19-25	16-19	22-25
Brussels	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Frankfurt	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Hamburg	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Stockholm	10-16	7-10	13-16	11-17	8-11	14-17
Oslo	9-15	6-9	12-15	10-16	7-10	13-16
Reykjavik	8-14	5-8	11-14	9-15	6-9	12-15
Warsaw	12-18	9-12	15-18	13-19	10-13	16-19
Berlin	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Munich	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Zurich	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Vienna	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Prague	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Budapest	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Sofia	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Belgrade	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Bratislava	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Warsaw	12-18	9-12	15-18	13-19	10-13	16-19
Berlin	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Munich	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Zurich	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Vienna	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Prague	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Budapest	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Sofia	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20
Belgrade	14-20	11-14	17-20	15-21	12-15	18-21
Bratislava	13-19	10-13	16-19	14-20	11-14	17-20



**North America**  
Dry and pleasant in the Southwest Thursday and Friday, warmer Saturday. Turkey northward to the Gold in the Rockies with showers of rain and wet snow Thursday, drying out. London to Paris with snow Thursday, drying out. A little milder Friday and Saturday. Mild in the west snow. A bit of snow and rain Thursday, snow showers and rain Friday and Saturday. Drying rain with a shower possible each day. Drenching rain will affect Shanghai.

Legend: cloudy, partly cloudy, cloudy, showers, thunderstorms, rain, snow, rain/snow, sleet, fog, haze, mist, drizzle, ice, etc. as provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©1998 - http://www.accuweather.com

Asia	Today	Low	High	Tomorrow	Low	High
Amman	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Bangkok	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Beijing	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Bombay	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Calcutta	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Chongming	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Colombo	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Hong Kong	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Kobe	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Manila	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Osaka	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Seoul	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Singapore	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Taipei	25-32	22-25	28-32	26-33	23-26	29-33
Tokyo	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23
Yokohama	15-22	12-15	18-22	16-23	13-16	19-23

Alaska	28-32	11-52	pc	27-31	5-37	5-37
Albania	28-32	21-70	pc	24-75	12-55	12-55
Detroit	20-48	8-48	4-48	19-47	6-47	6-47
Honolulu	25-27	17-50	pc	24-28	10-50	10-50
Mercurio	25-27	17-50	pc	24-28	10-50	10-50
San Francisco	25-27	17-50	pc	24-28	10-50	10-50
Los Angeles	19-66	10-50	5-27	18-65	8-48	8-48
London	28-32	21-70	pc	24-75	12-55	12-55
Manila	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Memphis	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Montreal	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Nassau	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
New York	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Osaka	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Phoenix	20-48	8-48	4-48	19-47	6-47	6-47
Portland	20-48	8-48	4-48	19-47	6-47	6-47
San Jose	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Seattle	14-57	6-43	pc	14-57	4-47	4-47
Toronto	18-61	6-43	pc	17-61	3-47	3-47
Washington	15-29	2-35	pc	15-23	2-35	2-35
Washington	21-73	12-50	D	21-75	14-57	14-57

Latin America

Buenos Aires	19-66	10-50	5-27	18-64	12-55	12-55
Caracas	28-32	21-70	pc	24-75	12-55	12-55
Limao	26-72	7-47	7-47	26-82	22-71	22-71
San Jose	30-85	20-65	20-65	30-85	20-65	20-65
San Juan	28-32	21-70	pc	24-75	12-55	12-55
Sancti Spiritus	18-54	6-43	C	20-58	5-47	5-47

Oceania

Auckland	12-66	11-52	1-50	12-65	12-55	12-55
Wellington	12-66	11-52	1-50	12-65	12-55	12-55



THE AMERICAS

# Pentagon Distress Signal Over a New World Court

It Warns Embassies of Frivolous Inquiries

By Eric Schmitt  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — When the Pentagon urgently called in more than 100 foreign military attaches from embassies here two weeks ago, they expected to be briefed on the next crisis threatening world peace.

Instead, the military aides were surprised by warnings of a potential menace to their troops that most had never considered: the proposed International Criminal Court, scheduled to be established as a permanent tribunal to try tyrants such as Pol Pot for human-rights abuses or Saddam Hussein for war crimes.

The Pentagon warned the attaches that if the court was set up and was not properly restrained, it could target their own soldiers — particularly when they were acting as peacekeepers — and subject them to frivolous or politically motivated investigations by a rogue prosecutor or an overzealous tribunal.

"It was unusual," a seasoned Western military officer said of the 30-minute briefing he attended. After the meetings, on March 31 and April 1, several of the attaches dashed off urgent messages to their superiors back home, which in turn set off alarms up the chain of command.

For nearly four years, the United States has supported the efforts of diplomats at the United Nations to create a permanent international criminal court. All 185 members of the United Nations will be invited to a conference in Rome in June to establish the court by statute. But now that the tribunal is within reach, the United States is pressing to limit its authority and independence.

While President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright have endorsed the idea of a court, they have given their blessing to the Pentagon to become the attack dog in the U.S. campaign to create a court more to Washington's liking.

Human rights advocates contend that the American military establishment has set off an unnecessary uproar that may ultimately weaken efforts to create the first permanent world tribunal to deal with genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. It would re-

place ad hoc tribunals like those set up for Rwanda and the Balkans.

"An unintended result of all this is that a number of defense ministers are raising unfounded concerns about the project," said Christopher Keith Hall, a legal adviser for Amnesty International in London.

A three-page memorandum distributed at the Pentagon briefings says: "The U.S. is committed to the successful establishment of a court. But we are also intent on avoiding the creation of the wrong kind of court."

The wrong court, in the view of the administration and particularly the Pentagon, would put tiny players on the world stage, such as Benin or Trinidad and Tobago, on an equal footing with the United States. And that, they fear, could lead to unfounded accusations against soldiers assigned as peacekeepers in difficult situations.

"They really wanted to reinforce to us the idea, 'Do you know this is going on?'" said a Western military attaché who attended one of the briefings.

A European diplomat at the same meeting said, "It was a lobbying effort; clearly it was."

The Pentagon also sent a senior team to Europe, where the officials hoppedscotched from London to Paris to Brussels to Rome to Bonn, impressing top military brass in each capital with the American arguments. Human-rights advocates say the campaign may yield dangerous, unintended consequences.

"What the people at the Pentagon didn't realize is that they went after a fly with a shotgun," said Cherif Bassiouni, a law professor at De Paul University in Chicago and deputy chairman of the UN panel that prepared the draft text to be presented in Rome. "The attaches got scared, sent home cables and got everyone in a tizzy," he said. "What the Pentagon has done may undermine the policy established by the president."

But Pentagon officials deny using any pressure tactics and assert that no foreign military official has complained.

"It was not lobbying; there was no arm-twisting — it was awareness-raising," said Frederick Smith, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs.



LAUGHING IT UP — The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, telling a joke that broke up Jay Leno, the television talk show host. Mr. Gingrich is on a tour to promote his new book about his life and politics.

## Away From Politics

• A common derivative of vitamin A, retinoic acid, may block cancer in the body, researchers said. The body makes retinoic acid from vitamin A, which comes from the yellow or orange compounds known as carotenoids found in vegetables ranging from carrots to squash. (Reuters)

• The effort to discover cancer in its early stages, when it is more easily treated, could get a boost from a highly sensitive new blood test that uses magnets to concentrate the cancer cells from blood and lasers to observe them. (AP)

• An Italian tourist who was kicked off an airline flight for assaulting an attendant who tried to stop him from smoking has been sentenced to seven days in jail in Bangor, Maine. A Continental Airlines flight bound for Newark, New Jersey, was diverted to Bangor on Friday, and Ignazio Miliano of Ribera, Italy was removed and arrested after the commotion. (AP)

• Boys who got free condoms in high school in Los Angeles did not have sex more often, a new study shows. But they were more likely to use condoms when they did have sex. (AP)

## POLITICAL NOTES

### Clinton Lawyer Assails Starr

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's personal lawyer attacked Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, accusing Mr. Starr of being unable to investigate "credibly or appropriately" allegations that David Hale, a key witness in the Whitewater real estate inquiry, was paid off by conservative activists.

In a letter made public Monday, the lawyer, David Kendall, outlined the independent counsel's links to the conservative philanthropist Richard Mellon Scaife, who financed an effort by The American Spectator magazine to uncover negative information about the president. That project was the source of alleged payoffs to Mr. Hale while he was a central cooperating witness in Mr. Starr's investigation.

Mr. Kendall asked Mr. Starr to request that the Justice Department — rather than Mr. Starr's office — investigate the Hale allegations, which were made by the former girlfriend of a longtime friend of Mr. Hale's. "I do not think you or your office can credibly or appropriately conduct this investigation," Mr. Kendall wrote to Mr. Starr in the letter. On Thursday, the Justice Department urged Mr.

Starr to investigate the allegations but alerted the independent counsel that he might face a conflict of interest in doing so. The Justice letter, from Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder Jr., included a statement that Mr. Starr might have such a conflict "because of the importance of Hale to your investigation and because the payments allegedly came from funds provided by Richard Scaife."

Mr. Starr's office has not yet decided what it plans to do with the Hale allegations. "We're evaluating what our response will be, and to whom," said a spokesman for the office, adding that a decision was expected soon. Hickman Ewing, the deputy independent counsel, said last week there was no evidence that FBI agents or anyone to Mr. Starr's office knew of any money going to Mr. Hale. (WP)

### Budget Chief Steps Down

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton accepted the resignation Tuesday of Franklin Raines as director of the Office of Management and Budget and nominated his deputy, Jack Lew, as his successor. Mr. Raines, 49, will become chairman and chief

executive officer of Fannie Mae Corp., after serving for more than a year and a half as Mr. Clinton's budget chief. Fannie Mae issues secondary mortgages.

Mr. Raines was praised by the president as "a brilliant OMB director" trusted by Republican and Democratic lawmakers alike.

Mr. Lew was at Mr. Raines' side for the months of meetings between administration officials and congressional leaders last year that produced the budget-balancing deal. (AP)

### Quote/Unquote

Mark Plotkin, a Washington political analyst, on the speculation over whether Washington's mayor, Marion Barry, who has served four terms since 1974, and a jail sentence on drug charges, will seek a fifth four-year term this year: "He has over toyed with the public like this. I think he has decided that there is nothing left to prove. He came back, rising like the phoenix, in one of the greatest political comebacks of all time, and he could go out on a high — although that's an unfortunate choice of words." (NYT)

# Katharine Graham Wins a Pulitzer for Autobiography; Philip Roth for Fiction

NEW YORK (AP) — The 1998 Pulitzer Prize for biography was awarded Tuesday to Katharine Graham, chairman of the executive committee of The Washington Post Co., for "Personal History," her autobiography.

Philip Roth won the prize for fiction for "American Pastoral." The Pulitzer for drama went to Paula Vogel for "How I Learned to Drive."

The New York Times staff won the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting for a series profiling the effects of drug corruption in Mexico.

The spot news photography prize went to Martha Rial of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for portraits of survivors of the conflicts in Rwanda and Burundi.

The New York Times won two Pulitzers and the Los Angeles Times two. The prizes, the highest awards in American journalism, are presented annually by Columbia University. In the commentary category, Mike McAlary of the New York Daily News was honored for his columns on the alleged attack on a Haitian immigrant in a New York police station.

The Grand Forks Herald in North Dakota won

the public service prize for coverage of the blizzard, flood and fire that devastated much of the city.

The Pulitzer for breaking news reportage went to the Los Angeles Times for coverage of a botched bank robbery and subsequent police shoot-out in North Hollywood.

The award for investigative reporting went to Gary Cohn and Will Englund of The Sun of Baltimore for a series on dangers to workers and the environment when discarded ships are dismantled.

In the best reporting category, Linda Greenhouse of The New York Times was honored for

her coverage of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Paul Salopek of the Chicago Tribune won the explanatory reporting category for a profile of the Human Genome Diversity Project, which seeks to chart the genetic relationship among all people.

Russell Carroll and Jeff Nesmith of the Dayton (Ohio) Daily News were awarded the national reporting prize for disclosing flaws and mismanagement in the military health care system.

Thomas French of the St. Petersburg (Florida) Times was honored for feature writing for a portrait of a mother and two daughters killed

while on a Florida vacation.

Michiko Kakutani of The New York Times was honored in the criticism category for her writing on books and contemporary literature.

The editorial writing prize went to Bernard Stein of the Riverdale Press, a New York City weekly, for editorials on politics and other city issues.

The editorial cartooning prize went to Stephen Breen of the Asbury Park (New Jersey) Press.

Clarence Williams of the Los Angeles Times won in feature photography for documenting the plight of children with parents addicted to drugs and alcohol.

## AMERICAN TOPICS

### Indian Languages Take a Slide Toward an Unspoken Oblivion

James Jackson Jr., 88, says he still remembers the day many decades ago when a teacher at his Indian school grabbed a friend who was speaking his Hupa language and said, "You're speaking your language — I'm going to wash your mouth out with soap." Mr. Jackson is one of only a handful of surviving Hupa speakers.

Such stories were common on Indian reservations around the United States. Surprisingly, most of North America's Indian languages have survived. Of the approximately 300 Indian languages that existed when Europeans first arrived, 211 are still spoken, reports The New York Times.

But with the impact of television and radio and increased mobility among Indians, those native languages are suffering a free fall. Of the 175 Indian languages still spoken in the United States, only 20 are spoken by mothers to babies, said Michael Krauss, a linguist at the University of Alaska. "This is a major American tragedy," Mr. Krauss said.

The trend is of wider sweep. With the rise of a global economy and increased communications, about half the world's 6,000 languages are expected to disappear over the next century. Among American Indians, however, the process is already far advanced. In California, 50 native languages are still spoken. But not one is being spoken natively by children.

Indians are dismissive of federal efforts to help: a U.S. program spends \$2 million a year on language preservation. Greater hopes are placed on programs like the Native California Network, in which 50 young "apprentices" undergo intensive language immersions with "masters," tribal elders who speak the language. Similar efforts are under way in other states.

### Short Takes

The 550,000 U.S. members of the Sierra Club are deciding whether to take a stand against human migration patterns. They are now voting on whether to favor efforts to slow the flow of immigrants to the United States, or to remain neutral on the issue. Supporters say overpopulation caused by immigration hurts the environment. Opponents, however, say the measure is racist and xenophobic.

The proposal would require the environmental group to develop a policy advocating immigration restrictions and to lobby Congress on the idea. Members have until April 18 to return their ballots. Among those backing a reduction in immigration are Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day, and Stewart Udall, a former Interior secretary. The Sierra Club leadership wants to maintain the status quo.

Bruce Morrow won the 1995-96 Big Game Award in Texas, displaying a 12-point set of deer antlers from a buck he says he shot in South Texas, big stuff in a big hunting state. But prosecutors now say he didn't bag the buck, he bought it. Mr. Morrow is about to go on trial in Austin on charges of tampering with a government record; he faces up to two years in jail.

Mr. Morrow's troubles began when a hunting magazine ran a photo of him posing with the antlers. A collector thought the antlers were a dead ringer for a set he had sold to a dealer. He notified authorities. Mr. Morrow is known to have rejected a plea bargain calling for 45 days to jail, 200 hours of community service and a \$5,000 fine — plus a public apology. He apparently found that a bit stiff, considering that the contest paid no prize money, only bragging rights. But his alleged offense is no laughing matter in Texas.

"Here in the state of Texas, we take that pretty seriously," said Denny Gardner of the Texas Wildlife Association. "Personally, I don't think they could treat a person like that bad enough."

Brian Knowlton

## Albright Seeks to Put Off Foreigner's Execution

By Linda Greenhouse  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court was considering whether to intervene in a Virginia death penalty case that has unusual international implications as well as possibly unsettling consequences for thousands of other cases involving the incarceration of foreigners in U.S. prisons.

In a brief filed Monday, the Clinton administration told the justices that despite an order last week by the International Court of Justice that the United States "take all measures at its disposal" to stop Virginia from executing a Paraguayan citizen, there was no legal basis for granting requests by Paraguay and the prisoner for a stay of execution.

The prisoner, Angel Francisco Breard, was convicted in 1992 of murdering a woman in Virginia and was to die at 9 P.M. Tuesday. Both Mr. Breard and his native country argue that the execution would violate U.S. obligations under an international treaty, the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Virginia has conceded that it violated the treaty by not informing Mr. Breard of his right to help from Paraguayan consular officials.

The administration's brief, filed by Solicitor General Seth Waxman in response to a high court request, said that while "there can be no doubt of the irreparable harm to Breard from the carrying out of his sentence of execution," Virginia would also suffer harm "by an order preventing

it from carrying out its lawfully entered judgment of execution in a timely fashion."

At the same time, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright wrote Governor James Gilmore 3d of Virginia, asking that he voluntarily grant a stay of execution as a way of honoring the treaty. In light of the order Thursday by the Court of Justice, Mrs. Albright said, Mr. Breard's immediate execution "could be seen as a denial by the United States of the significance of international law and the court's processes in its international relations and thereby limit our ability to ensure that Americans are protected when living or traveling abroad."

Although the brief filed by the solicitor general and the letter sent by Ms. Albright

appeared on one level to be contradictory, they were actually part of a coordinated administration strategy to deal with an escalating international incident. That was made clear by Mr. Waxman's 52-page brief, which offered the secretary of state's letter as an example of an appropriate response to the Court of Justice, in contrast to judicial intervention, which the brief said was inappropriate within the system of federalism.

The brief contrasted the "compulsion" of a judicial remedy with the "persuasion" of the secretary of state's letter. Mr. Gilmore had no immediate response. The Vienna Convention, signed by the United States in 1963 and ratified by the Senate in 1969, requires that a person who is arrested in a foreign country be promptly notified of the right to communicate with the home country's consular officials, who are entitled to visit the person and arrange for legal representation.

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## ASIA/PACIFIC

## At a Fallen Khmer Rouge Stronghold, the Thunder of War Still Resounds

By Seth Mydans

New York Times Staff

ANLONG VENG, Cambodia — The writing here is on the walls, in a cement schoolhouse abandoned when the Khmer Rouge guerrillas fled a government attack two weeks ago.

Large blackboards list the rules of behavior that were enforced in this village during the years when it was the core of a stark, self-contained Communist society — along with the penalty for disobedience: death.

No stealing. No drunkenness. No prostitution. No marriage outside the commune. No commerce without permission. No contact with outsiders. No listening to any radio station other than that of the Khmer Rouge.

"Anyone who disobeys the Angkor will be killed," reads the blackboard. The Angkor — meaning "the organization" — was the anonymous leadership that ruled Cambodia from 1975 to 1979 and caused the deaths of more than one million people.

For years the Khmer Rouge leadership held out here — apart from a short-lived government occupation in 1994 — even as the bulk of its forces, in other strongholds, gave up the fight.

Now Cambodian government soldiers and Khmer Rouge defectors control Anlong Veng, which stands empty and silent in the hot sun, and they, too, have made their mark on the schoolhouse walls.

One of them has written, in careful but flawed English: "This is a place of Khmer Red, now the soldiers got. They run until to stay at Thailand. Signature: Soldiers of Gvauntele."

The bang of a tank cannon echoed off the cement walls Monday, and a young soldier jumped. The war is not yet over. The last several hundred guerrillas have retreated to the Dangrek Mountains on the border with Thailand, a hazy blue ridge 14 kilometers (9 miles) away.

Seven artillery rounds fired by the Khmer Rouge landed in Anlong Veng near the abandoned home of the guerrillas' leader, Ta Mok.

On a visit here, General Meas Sophea, deputy

chief of staff of the Cambodian Army, asserted that the guerrillas' mountain stronghold could fall within a few days. But the Khmer Rouge remain a powerful force that has already retaken Anlong Veng once since it fell two weeks ago, and the progress of the battle is unclear. Several thousand villagers who fled at the time have not been allowed to return.

General Meas Sophea also asserted that Mr. Ta Mok had crossed the border into Thailand, presumably taking with him the founder of the Khmer Rouge, Pol Pot, who is now ailing and demoted from his leadership post.

"Ta Mok is in Thai territory," the general said. "As far as we know, Pol Pot is with him. Ta Mok is in Ban Sa-Ngam, three kilometers inside Thai territory." He said he based this statement on "information from people who have come from that area."

Thailand has vigorously denied that the Khmer Rouge have taken sanctuary on its territory, although for years the guerrillas have moved easily back and forth across the border at Ban Sa-Ngam.

That village, at a heavily patrolled crossing point, is within a 16-kilometer Thai border zone that cannot be entered by outsiders without permission. Foreign reporters outside the zone say there is no indication whether any Khmer Rouge soldiers or leaders have crossed the border.

The United States is eager to capture Mr. Pol Pot, 73, who has led the Khmer Rouge for more than 30 years, and to bring him to trial before an international tribunal for crimes against humanity. Maintaining Thailand's cooperation is a delicate diplomatic challenge for the Americans.

There is evidence of the Khmer Rouge's close relationship with Thailand in Mr. Ta Mok's empty house here: Two calendars issued by Thai Bank hang on his walls. But apart from the calendars, Mr. Ta Mok's two-story cement house, with its large underground bunker and radio tower, has been stripped of almost all its furnishings.

Government soldiers have chalked a skull and crossbones on the door to his bedroom — a small, stuffy room with a tile floor, unfinished wood

walls and one small window with a broken screen. Like the condition of the house, the surrounding village is barren, bare, hot and not beautiful. Widely spaced thatched huts stand empty, surrounded by parched, broken earth. There are few trees. Nobody seems to have planted gardens here.

## Foreign Diplomats Visit Anlong Veng

Foreign diplomats toured Anlong Veng on Tuesday as the Cambodian government predicted the guerrilla movement was on the brink of collapse. Agence France-Presse reported.

"It was absolutely fascinating," a Western diplomat said, adding, "According to the military, it looks like this whole thing could be wrapped up in just a few days."

For the third time in three days, senior Cambodian military officers told diplomats they believed Mr. Ta Mok and the rest of the Khmer Rouge hierarchy, including Mr. Pol Pot, had fled to Thailand. But in Bangkok, Thai authorities again denied the allegations.

## As the Smog Spreads, Malaysia Acts on Fires

Reuters

KUALA LUMPUR — Smog from raging fires spurred Malaysia to initiate a nationwide drive Tuesday to spot blazes, and the pollution prompted Brunei to close schools.

The moves came amid mounting fears that forest and bush fires stoked by dry weather would throw a blanket of acrid smoke over much of Southeast Asia, much as it did last year.

An official with Indonesia's environmental impact agency, Bapedal, said Tuesday that 250,000 hectares (600,000 acres) of forest land had been destroyed in fires that have swept Borneo's East Kalimantan Province since January.

Last year, fires destroyed about 30,000 hectares of the province. Kalimantan at this time is part of the Wild West, part of a nation without government, like parts of America in the 19th century, "Environment Minister Juwono Sudarsono was quoted as saying.

Mr. Sudarsono attributed the fires to the clearing of forests. He said because the government had not paid attention to the cause of the fires, it was as if Kalimantan was a region without government.

The El Niño weather phenomenon has cut rainfall over much of Southeast Asia, including Borneo, where Brunei is situated along with Eastern Malaysia and Kalimantan.

Fires in Indonesia last year sent smog across much of Southeast Asia, prompting health fears across the archipelago and in Malaysia and

Singapore. The haze returned to Singapore at the weekend, and a weather expert said the small island state was set for a week of hazy weather as winds pushed in smog from Borneo.

Environmental agencies and government officials say plantation companies are mostly to blame for having taken advantage of the dry conditions and poor law enforcement to clear forest for palm oil, rubber and timber plantations.

Malaysia began using helicopters and airplanes to spot fires, and officials vowed to put people who start blazes in jail.

Thousands of hectares were reported burning in Sabah state in the eastern region of Borneo, and peat fires emitted smoke from a smaller area near the capital, Kuala Lumpur.

The air pollutant index has recently remained in the good-to-moderate range for most of Malaysia, but sections of Sarawak and Sabah states in northern Borneo have been covered with smog.

The airport in Kota Kinabalu in Sabah was closed for several hours Monday because of poor visibility. Rain fell on the city Tuesday for the first time in five months, the official Bernama news agency said.

Brunei ordered schools closed as the pollutant standard index reached hazardous levels. For the coming days, parents were told to call a national hot line or listen to state radio each morning to learn if schools would be closed that day.



Firefighters cutting brush to stop fires spreading near Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

## At Pilgrimage's Climax, 10 Million Hindus

The Associated Press

HARIDWAR, India — The city of Haridwar was a swirl of saffron, snake charmers and about 10 million Hindu devotees on Tuesday for the climax of a purification ritual in the Ganges River that is one of the world's largest religious gatherings.

Hindus believe that bathing in a sacred river washes away their sins, speeding the way to the end of reincarnations in this world and the attainment of nirvana, or the afterlife.

Astrolaters, citing a special alignment of planets and stars, deemed Tuesday the most auspicious day of the four-month festival that began Jan. 1 and ends April 30.

Leeladhar Jaguri, an official spokesman, said 10 million people had bathed in the chilly waters beginning overnight, as many as had come during the first three months of the festival.

The police had at first canceled the traditional processions of saffron-clad Hindu holy men, after rival sects clashed over who would bathe first. The police relented after three religious leaders began a hunger strike in protest, and the sadhus marched as crowds lining

their route for miles cheered. No violence was reported.

Mindful of the recent fatal stampede at the half pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia, the Uttar Pradesh state authorities made massive security arrangements to avert any violence or accidents.

More than 15,000 police and paramilitary troops were deployed, and at least 30 permanent and temporary bridges were erected across the river.

Local officials say the festival was estimated to cost the authorities about 1 billion rupees (\$25 million).

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EUROPE

# Blood Feuds Draining a Fierce Corner of Albania

By Jane Perlez  
New York Times Service

**OLD TROPOJE, Albania** — Beneath the snow-splashed escarpments that protect northern Albania from the outside world and have left life much as it was centuries ago, Sylaj family members have been cooped up on their homestead for months, too afraid to move.

A blood feud, following precepts laid down in a medieval canon, hangs over the men of the household, including the patriarch, Shaban Sylaj, 99, who welcomes visitors with a two-tooth grin, wisps of hair poking out from under his skullcap.

Mr. Sylaj's son, Chel, 38, shot and killed another Albanian man in January and now the dead man's family has the right, under the still-flourishing code, to take revenge. Their target is one of the Sylajs men.

where vengeance is the ruling passion.

Weapons — pistols in the old days, automatic assault rifles now — are valued as much as human life: A man who kills another man and takes his weapon too can be avenged with the taking of two lives.

"Who knows how many people have been killed through revenge?" said Man Mulosmani, 64, a clan leader who is preaching reconciliation rather than retribution. "Countless, countless. People don't want to report killings to the police because then the accused would be protected by the state in prison instead of being available to kill."

This closed corner of Europe was described by British spies who trekked here on mule and foot during World War II as the wildest physical — and psychological — terrain on the Continent. It is still reached by a precipitous dirt road hacked out of the mountains and a jade-tinted lake that swerves through vertical limestone cliffs and stony land.

For nearly 50 years, the world's most isolated Communist system superficially submerged the customs that decree an eye for an eye and keep women in the lowliest position. But as Enver Hoxha's communism evaporated at the beginning of this decade, so did the temporary covering it provided for ingrained ways of living.

When the Albanian police force and army disintegrated during civil strife last year and the arms depots stashed with assault rifles and mortars sprang open, revenge killings



In Dragobi, Albania, where medieval precepts of vengeance still apply, the Ismaeli family's house is built mainly for defense. The Ismaelis, from left: Musa, 24; Lutzin, 8; Feride, 18; and her husband Uke, 48.

skyrocketed. With households heavily armed and escaped prisoners in possession of armories, the Tropoje region became off-limits for outsiders, even for government officials from the capital, Tirana.

The fact that the sparsely settled area is the stronghold of the former president, Sali Berisha, adds to the inability of the new Socialist government to impose order. In some places, like the village of Dragobi, the instability of the past and the present is easy to see.

The limestone house of the Ismaeli family, for example, has narrow slits in the walls. They are ideal for aiming a gun at the outside world while

providing protection against anyone who might want to attack, the family explained. In their living room, a hole in the wall covered by a sliding door once served as a hiding place for their grandfather's pistol. Now this is where the women keep their embroidery. Instead of a pistol, the family keeps assault rifles.

As hard as Mr. Mulosmani, a retired agronomist with a shock of white hair, tries to mediate between feuding families, it is a difficult task. He spent a session cross-legged on the Sylajs' living room floor — a manner borrowed from the Turks who dominated Albania until 1912 — discussing ways to avert

more bloodshed. He came away with no resolution. Intended to regulate medieval life, the Canon of Lek, as it is known, has been perverted by people to suit their own needs. Mr. Mulosmani said. Now the lawless society floats between the old customs and a state unable to adapt to modernity in the wake of communism.

The unchecked violence in the Tropoje district is combined with extreme poverty. The hospital has been looted so often that robberies have subsided because there is nothing left to steal.

International aid agencies are too frightened to come to help.

Many families make do with one chicken a week made into broth and served with a plank of hard cornbread. There is no industry and only those families who have meo abroad — often as illegal immigrants in Greece or Italy — can make ends meet.

Such families usually speed the first remittances from abroad on a television set. But wealthier families remain self-sufficient, living off the land.

The Ismaelis in Dragobi are one such family. Another

## Backing for Yeltsin's Nominee

MOSCOW — The hard-line opposition's commitment to a confrontation with President Boris Yeltsin began to erode Tuesday as a leading Communist urged Parliament to approve Mr. Yeltsin's candidate for prime minister rather than risk having the assembly disbanded.

Gennadi Seleznyov, speaker of Parliament's lower house, the State Duma, has been a leading critic of Mr. Yeltsin's nominee, Sergei Kiriyenko, 35, who was rejected by lawmakers last week in a first-round vote.

But after meeting with Mr. Yeltsin on Tuesday, Mr. Seleznyov said he would rather approve Mr. Kiriyenko as prime minister than have Mr. Yeltsin dismiss Parliament and call new elections.

Under the constitution, Mr. Yeltsin has the right to dissolve Parliament and call new elections if the Duma rejects his nominee three times. Mr. Kiriyenko's nomination was rejected Friday by a vote of 186 to 143 (AP).

## New Attack in 'Cauliflower War'

MORLAIX, France — Cauliflower farmers protesting falling prices blocked Brittany's main highway Tuesday, resuming protests that last week damaged and shut down the region's main railroad.

About 500 cauliflower producers voted unanimously Tuesday afternoon to resume their demonstrations despite an offer by Agriculture Minister Louis Le Pen to organize talks between the farmers and ministry officials.

"We refuse the roundtable," said Jean-Francois Jacob, president of the young farmers' association, demanding direct talks with Mr. Le Pen.

"We hoped for a gesture from the government, and it never came," said Thierry Merret, the farm union leader.

In the so-called cauliflower war, the crop's price has fallen below production costs and farmers are seeking higher state subsidies to offset their losses. (AP)

## Vienna Cardinal Faces Seclusion

VIENNA — The disgraced former archbishop of Vienna, Hans Hermann Groer, is being sent into monastic seclusion abroad, the Austrian Roman Catholic Church's press agency said Tuesday.

Monsignor Groer "will no longer appear as bishop or cardinal and will be sent to a foreign monastery," Kathpress said in a statement.

The move, ahead of Pope John Paul II's visit to Austria in June, followed an appeal by Austrian bishops for the Vatican to rule on allegations that Monsignor Groer, now 78, had sexually abused several monks.

Earlier Tuesday, Monsignor Groer said he would be willing to resign his church duties if the Pope wanted him to do so. (Reuters)

## Bosnian Serbs Deny War Crimes

THE HAGUE — Two Bosnian Serbs who formerly worked as prison-camp commanders pleaded not guilty Tuesday to charges that they were responsible for atrocities committed against Muslims and Croats held at the Serbian-run Omarska camp during the Bosnian war.

Miroslav Kvocka, 41 and Mladen Radic, 45, who surrendered to NATO-led peacekeepers in Bosnia last Wednesday, appeared at a preliminary hearing of the United Nations criminal tribunal for Yugoslavia. (Reuters)

## Court Voids Charges Against Heirs of Art Thief

By William H. Honan  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A federal appeals court in New Orleans has all but put an end to the prosecution of two Texans and their lawyer on charges that they trafficked in stolen property in their efforts to sell artwork taken from Germany after World War II.

Jane Meador Cook, 64, the heirs of the man who stole the artworks, known as the Quedlinburg treasure, may still have to pay more than \$50 million in estate taxes, penalties and interest.

The medieval artworks, said to be worth at least \$200 million, were stolen from their hiding place in a cave outside Quedlinburg in central Germany in the closing days of the war.

Mr. Meador and Ms. Cook are the brother and sister of Joe Tom Meador, who, as an army lieutenant, stole 12 treasures when he happened upon them in Quedlinburg.

Their former lawyer, John Torigan, sold the artworks in 1990 to a team of European art dealers, who in turn sold them to Germany. Mr. Meador and Ms. Cook were paid a total of \$2.75 million for the treasures. Mr. Torigan earned a 5 percent commission.

## On French Far Right, a Subtler Brain

Megret, National Front's No. 2, Says Party Is Destined to Govern

By Marlies Simons  
New York Times Service

PARIS — For the French, the face and voice of the far right have long been those of Jean-Marie Le Pen, the blustery former paratrooper who, 25 years ago, founded the National Front. But the brain that quietly devised the maneuvers that co-opted French politics recently belongs to Bruno Megret.

The two men could not be more different.

Whereas the large and stout Mr. Le Pen thrives on melodrama and pours scorn on mainstream politicians, the slight Mr. Megret goes out of his way to sound reasonable and amenable to compromise. Whereas Mr. Le Pen can rouse people like a preacher, Mr. Megret's language is precise and professional.

But although he sometimes gives the impression that he disapproves of outrageous tactics and of scaring people off with heated oratory, Mr. Megret, 49, the second-ranking member of the National Front, plays down any substantive differences he may have with his boss. And like Mr. Le Pen, he firmly believes that the National Front is destined to govern.

Last week, Mr. Megret gloated over the poor performance of the two main rightist parties in regional elections and cheerfully predicted more upheaval in the establishment. In his view, that will include the implosion of the current political center.

"France now has three political poles," he said, citing the left, the moderate right and the far-right National Front. "That means we are in an unstable system. When there are three poles, the center tends to disappear or become marginal."

With unwavering confidence, Mr. Megret added that France's traditional right would have to divide into two camps: one that made deals with it. If this does not happen, Mr. Megret predicted, the country's two main conser-

vative parties will "continue to retreat and implode."

Presenting the National Front as a pivot point of French politics is still excessive for a party that in the last few years has garnered only 15 percent of the vote nationwide. But in recent weeks it has sounded a little less extravagant.

In March, elections for regional assemblies splintered votes in such a way that the National Front minority held the balance of power in five of France's 22 regions. Five members of the conservative Union for French Democracy accepted National Front votes to hold on to their assembly presidencies. Two of the five then resigned under pressure from their party, but three refused.

In Paris, furious party bosses branded the alliance between their local officials and the National Front a pact with the devil and expelled the three rebels. The infighting is far from over, and Mr. Megret clearly hopes it will continue to work to his party's advantage.

"I am very optimistic about the growth of the National Front," he said.

All this turmoil has put the spotlight on him. He appears well placed to rattle the moderate right since he comes from its ranks. A career civil servant, he broke with the Gaullists in 1985 and joined the National Front. More than Mr. Le Pen, Mr. Megret has put the spotlight on the role of articulating the party's ideas.

Last week, talking with a group of foreign correspondents, he gave the most detailed description yet of how a National Front government would disrupt the European Union.

Outlining a four-point plan, Mr. Megret said the Front would first revise the French Constitution so that European law would no longer prevail over French law. Then it would challenge France's participation in the euro, the single European currency, which is set to go into effect next year.

Third, it would re-establish strict border controls. And last it would pull out of the customs union and impose a 10 percent tax on imports.

"We think the Europe being built is doomed because it is an institutional imbroglio," he said.

Mr. Megret, the polite strategist, has been trying hard to rid the Front of its negative labels: racist, anti-Semitism, xenophobic. Individual members may have slipped up in their language, he acknowledged, but the Front, as a party, "condemns racism, anti-Semitism and authoritarian regimes," and rejects "the term 'extreme right'."

Still, he said, the party "refuses to be politically correct." Without it France would be a place of "totalitarian conformity," where "everyone would say the same thing about everything. By its very existence, the Front maintains diversity and freedom of expression."

In the town of Vinolles, where his wife, Catherine, is mayor but he is the real political force, diversity is not necessarily the norm. Mr. Megret announced earlier this year that the town would pay a bonus of 5,000 francs (\$800) for every new baby, but only if the parents were European in origin. After the first payment the policy was put on hold; regional authorities challenged it as discriminatory.

### More Turmoil on the Right

Two founders of the Union for French Democracy quit the group Tuesday in protest over the expulsion of the three members who forged deals with the National Front. Reuters reported.

In the latest sign of disarray on the right, Michel Poniatowski, a former interior minister, and Alain Griorteray, mayor of Charenton, wrote a joint letter of resignation highly critical of the party leader, Francois Lottard.

"You have banned from the UDF three regional chairmen who are excellent republicans and democrats and above all suspicious," the letter said.

Mr. Poniatowski and Mr. Griorteray said that by spurning the National Front, Mr. Lottard was handing control of the regions to the left and thereby "betraying" UDF voters.

## Mafia Leader Arrested Near Palermo

By Vera Haller  
Washington Post Service

ROME — The police announced Tuesday that they had arrested Italy's second-most-wanted Mafia fugitive, reportedly the heir to Sicily's organized crime network.

The suspect was identified as Vito Vitale, 39, and he was said to have consolidated power over clans in and around the Sicilian capital, Palermo.

Palermo's police chief, Antonio Manzanelli, said that Mr. Vitale was the most-wanted Mafia suspect behind only Ben-

ardo Provenzano. A fugitive for more than three decades, Mr. Provenzano is elderly and believed to be in poor health.

The chief said that Mr. Vitale was seized Tuesday in a farmhouse under construction in the countryside south of Palermo.

The owner of the farmhouse and another man there at the time of the raid also were arrested. Mr. Vitale was held on a warrant for Mafia association and other charges dating from 1995.

According to investigators, Mr. Vitale rose quickly up the Mafia power structure in large part because he was the

protégé of Leoluca Bagarella, a Mafia boss who was arrested in 1995.

Mr. Vitale was said to have also had the support of the "boss of bosses," Salvatore Riina, who was arrested in 1993 after 23 years on the run.

### Police Official Is Held

One of Italy's most decorated police officials was arrested Tuesday for allegedly extorting money from the family of a kidnapping victim. The Associated Press reported from Rome.

He was identified as General Francesco Delfino, 60.

The International Herald Tribune will produce a Special Report on May 2, on

## EUROPE, THE EURO



ON MAY 2, European Prime Ministers and Finance Ministers will meet in Brussels to set the seal on one of the most daring and far-reaching monetary experiments in history — European economic and monetary union. At that meeting, up to 11 nations will be selected as founding members of EMU and they will agree to replace their national currencies with a single, new currency — the euro — and hand over their monetary policies to a new European Central Bank.

It will happen gradually, with the transition beginning on January 1, 1999, and completed by 2002. The move will further consolidate Europe's single market, allowing nearly 300 million consumers to buy goods and services anywhere they please, paying with the new currency.

This Special Report will bring together the following IHT correspondents to offer you the most up-to-date and useful news, background and analysis on this extraordinary new turn in European history:

- Tom Buurkle
- Joseph Fitchett
- Alan Friedman
- Carl Gewirtz
- Barry James
- John Schmid
- John Vinocur

Whatever one's views, the reality of economic and monetary union beginning in January is apt to set in motion a new dynamic that contains surprises for everyone.

You have heard a lot from the politicians, but to help you get your own, independent grip on Europe's new reality, don't miss this Special Report on May 2, the day the crucial summit gets under way.

For a complete synopsis and information on advertising, contact your local representative or Bill Mahder at the IHT in Paris at: +33 1 41 43 93 78; fax: +33 1 41 43 92 13 or e-mail: supplements@iht.com



THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER



## INTERNATIONAL

# Nine IRA Convicts Released By Dublin

By James F. Clarity  
New York Times Service

DUBLIN — Irish officials said Tuesday that the government had released nine Irish Republican Army convicts who were serving prison terms for terrorist offenses.

The release was widely seen as support for Gerry Adams, the president of the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, as he faces internal opposition to the peace agreement reached last week. Mr. Adams must defend his decision to approve the agreement at a conference of his party in Dublin this weekend.

Freedom for IRA inmates — whom Sinn Féin calls "political prisoners," but whom the Irish and British governments consider felons convicted of

such crimes as murder, arms running, and attacks on police that wounded or killed civilians — is a major concern for Republicans. Some Republicans oppose Mr. Adams as a traitor to the cause because he failed in the peace talks to gain a united Ireland, run from Dublin and free of British control.

Hard-line Protestant leaders, like the Reverend Ian Paisley, have already seized upon the issue of the prisoners, saying the agreement will free terrorists to restart the guerrilla war. The agreement envisions the early release of paramilitary prisoners, both Catholic and Protestant, within two years.

If a substantial number of Mr. Adams's party members opposed the agreement, it would weaken support for it in the referendum. But more significantly, it would increase fears that the dissidents would join or help violent splinter groups.

The IRA is observing a cease-fire it called in July, though many officials say IRA guerrillas have helped splinter groups in attacks in recent months.

Irish officials said the prisoner release was in keeping with the spirit of the historic agreement signed Friday for a new political structure in the British province of Northern Ireland.

The new structure, to be put to referendums on May 22 in the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Irish Republic and in the mostly Protestant North, would give the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland more political power and increase the influence of the Irish Republic in northern affairs. But it assures the Protestant majority that there will be no united Ireland unless it is approved by a majority, which is not likely to happen until well into the new century.

As politicians began the campaign for and against the agreement on the first day after the Easter weekend, the issue of prisoners stirred an energetic dispute. Fifty IRA prisoners were being held at the prison at Portlaoise, west of Dublin. Last year, to speed up the peace effort, Ireland released 11 prisoners early.

About 250 IRA prisoners are in British jails in the North or on the British mainland. There was no indication Tuesday of an early release for any of them. Also surfacing as an issue Tuesday was a suggested visit to Northern Ireland by President Bill Clinton. Last week, after the agreement was approved, the George Mitchell, a former U.S. senator who was chairman of the peace talks, said Mr. Clinton might visit the North to help win approval in the referendum.

The president said he would only visit if invited by Prime Ministers Tony Blair of Britain and Bertie Aherm of Ireland. Catholic leaders, like John Hume, one of the authors of the peace effort that led to the new agreement, said Mr. Clinton would be welcome and helpful. But the Reverend Paisley's son, Ian Jr., said Mr. Clinton would not be welcome.

Extremist supporters of British rule, such as the Democratic Unionist Party, which stayed out of the peace talks and plans to begin a campaign for a no vote, sharply opposed a visit by Mr. Clinton. Reuters reported from Belfast.

"The people of Northern Ireland are more than capable of making up their own minds about the deal," Nigel Dodds of the Democratic Unionists said. "Clinton's suggested visit would clearly be aimed and used as a propaganda drive for a yes vote."

John Taylor, deputy leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, which helped forge the deal, said that while Mr. Clinton was generally welcome in the North, which he visited in December 1995, a visit before the May vote "could be seen as American interference in the affairs of the U.K."

Under an emerging agreement with Congress, which passed legislation last year to create the radio service, the administration will give Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \$900,000 to begin the project.

## Clashes Erupt In Tehran Over Mayor

Agence France-Press

TEHRAN — At least four people were injured when supporters of Tehran's embattled mayor clashed with Islamic hard-liners at the Interior Ministry here Tuesday.

The violence erupted after a speech by Faezeh Hashemi, daughter of former President Hashemi Rafsanjani, in support of the mayor, Gholam-Hossein Karbaschi, witnesses said. Mr. Karbaschi was arrested April 4 on corruption charges.

Witnesses said that at least four people were beaten by ministry security guards and 10 were arrested. The clashes began when a member of a hard-line Islamic group hostile to the mayor and other moderates in President Mohammad Khatami's government asked Miss Hashemi a question that angered the audience.

Mr. Karbaschi's supporters attacked fundamentalists in the crowd of about 2,000 to 3,000 people that had gathered to hear Miss Hashemi. The Interior Ministry has organized an exhibition lauding the mayor's achievements.

Miss Hashemi, a moderate member of Parliament, rejected the charges of corruption against Mr. Karbaschi that led to the mayor's arrest.

Earlier Tuesday, the police dispersed a group of 300 students demonstrating in front of Tehran University in support of the mayor.

**U.S. to Broadcast in Persian**  
U.S. officials said Tuesday that the Clinton administration, under pressure from Senate Republicans, would create a Persian-language radio service to beam anti-government propaganda into Iran. The New York Times reported from Washington.

Both the White House and State Department had argued that such a move ran counter to the administration's strategy of trying to find small gestures that would bolster Mr. Khatami's standing and even move Iran's leadership to accept direct talks with the United States.

Under an emerging agreement with Congress, which passed legislation last year to create the radio service, the administration will give Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty \$900,000 to begin the project.

## Sir Ian MacGregor, 85, Dies; Broke Power of U.K. Unions

The Associated Press

LONDON — Sir Ian MacGregor, a Scottish industrialist who helped crush a yearlong coal miners' strike and break the power of Britain's unions in the mid-1980s, died Sunday at age 85, family friends said.

The former National Coal Board chairman, who lived in Bermuda, suffered a heart attack while staying with friends in Somerset, southwest England.

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Sir Ian "brought a breath of fresh air to British industry."

Sir Ian's career was marked by stints in

both the British and U.S. steel industries. In 1980, he was named chairman of the state British Steel Corp., where he gained a reputation as a tough manager by cutting 100,000 jobs to reduce costs.

In March 1984, shortly after becoming chairman of the National Coal Board, miners began a strike after contract talks broke down. Lady Thatcher and Sir Ian remained firm, hating cheap foreign coal, and the strike collapsed after a year.

Mick McGahey, a former leader of Scottish miners, said Sunday that Lady Thatcher had appointed Sir Ian "to destroy trade unionism not only in mining, but in Britain."

Sir Ian was knighted in 1986.

Alex Ritchie, 52, Balloonist

NEW YORK (NYT) — Alex Ritchie, 52, a British balloonist who clambered atop an airborne balloon's gondola last year to jettison fuel tanks, halting a crash-diver, died Saturday in London.

The cause of death was injuries he sustained in January in a skydiving accident after his parachute failed to open, according to The Associated Press.

In the ballooning incident, which occurred in January 1997, Mr. Ritchie was part of a crew trying to circle the globe in a balloon sponsored by Richard Branson, the British entrepreneur.

Francis Durbridge, 85, TV Writer

LONDON (AP) — Francis Durbridge, 85, creator of the popular radio and television detective Paul Temple, died Saturday in Barnes, England, following a long illness. The Paul Temple adventures ran for three decades on BBC radio, starting in 1938, and made their television debut in 1968.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu, head of the truth panel, after the Botha trial was adjourned Tuesday.

## Prosecutor Sets Deadline for Botha

Agence France-Press

GEORGE, South Africa — The chief prosecutor in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's case against former President P. W. Botha has set a deadline of 8 A.M. Wednesday for opposing lawyers to strike a deal that would halt the case.

The state prosecutor, Bruce Morrison, told the court after hours of intensive discussions during an adjournment Tuesday that the parties were "very close to reaching an agreement" but had not yet struck a deal.

He said Attorney General Frank Kahn "has made it clear that unless the parties reach agreement by 8 A.M. the matter will proceed."

The imposition of a deadline came after hours of talks between lawyers for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the 82-year-old apartheid-era hard-liner.

Mr. Botha went on trial earlier Tuesday for refusing to testify before the commission, which is investigating human rights abuses committed during the apartheid era.

But when the case was adjourned for further discussion after only 10 minutes, it appeared likely that a compromise would be reached that would allow Mr. Botha to give testimony before a specially arranged commission hearing. In return, the case would be dropped.

## DEFENSE: Could Europe's Many National Weapons Makers Make a United Stand?

Continued from Page 1

pean Aerospace & Defense Co." — that would resemble a U.S. defense leader in making aircraft, helicopters, missiles and other kinds of weapons.

The other is to group producers of the same categories of weapons into stand-alone operations — using the "Airbus template" in which the consortium's partners are moving to pool their airliner work under a single management.

For the moment, the report concluded, Europe is not ready to move on either option — and delay would be the worst outcome of all, according to analysts.

For the United States, Europe's quandary is alarming, according to a Pentagon-based analyst who recently visited European capitals to discuss the problem. Not even U.S. defense companies can expect to profit in the long run, regardless of the short-term opportunities, he said, if their European counterparts head into a dead end.

The result, quickly, would be stiffer European protectionism, blocking U.S. access to European markets and causing bad blood in Washington, damaging NATO and poisoning the trans-Atlantic security relationship.

Strategically, Washington would find itself pulling away faster than ever from its European allies. Indeed, the analyst said, European governments must consolidate their defense industries quickly to fully enter the era of heavily computerized warfare that is already

revolutionizing U.S. military forces. The problems are deeply rooted in Europe, however. Defense industries have historically been a special case in most countries' economies, often functioning virtually as extensions of the armed services that are their prime customers. But in Europe, they have actually been run by the owner governments.

Since the Cold War's end, however, they have become more like ordinary industries, striving to contain costs, retooling as markets dwindle, seeking overseas orders and attracting high investments to fund the increasingly expensive research and development for new products, including armaments.

The situation seems ripe, the aerospace report said, for massive U.S.-style consolidation. In Europe, mega-mergers pose enormous problems because they raise all the cultural tensions that arise in cross-border deals.

But they offer a double bounce if they come off. Besides rationalizing production, the stronger companies that emerge as multinationals would have guaranteed access to all of Europe's once-restricted national markets.

Industrialists have already identified the key sectors that could be stand-alone pan-European manufacturers as well as the building blocks of a single monolith. The aerospace report, sources said, identified several of these zones, including:

• A missile-maker. It would be forged from sections of British Aerospace, Daimler-Benz Aerospace, the French

state-run Aerospatiale, Matra of France, Alenia of Italy and some smaller European companies.

• A defense-electronics giant. This would combine the French giant, Thomson, another giant, General Electric of Britain, Matra and Daimler-Benz. On Tuesday, Thomson was expected to announce terms of its alliance with Dassault Electronique, part of a larger plan to regroup French defense electronics activities, including those of Aerospatiale and Alcatel Alsthom.

• An aerospace company. The crown jewel, this sector would group three of Europe's top prime defense contractors: British Aerospace, Daimler-Benz and Aerospatiale, along with the combat aircraft division of Dassault, the privately owned maker of the Mirage and Rafale fighters. Quick to join would be Alenia, probably Saab of Sweden and smaller companies from Spain and elsewhere.

Consolidating Europe's defense work into a single European company for each category of weapons would rationalize the industry and make it globally competitive, but it would also involve cutting jobs, relocating facilities and negotiating trade-offs at a European level. To save national feelings, each industry would need to keep a headquarters, research and development labs and some manufacturing in each country, analysts say.

Despite the lumbering pace in some countries, especially France, the old stable of defense companies, often state-owned, has been severely winnowed

over the last few years across Europe. Britain and Germany have consolidated their defense work in the hands of a few companies, and smaller countries have closed down their industries or sold them, in most cases to British companies, which have been aggressive about acquisitions in defense.

In Britain, British Aerospace and GEC-Marconi, the defense electronics giant, have absorbed their domestic competitors, including such companies as Ferranti that were once household names. For several years, they have been buying up or taking control of companies in other European countries. For example, the state-owned Finmeccanica of Italy last month made the defense electronics unit of Alenia part of a \$1 billion joint venture with General Electric.

Germany has consolidated its aerospace work — military and civil aircraft, helicopters, missiles and satellites — into Daimler-Benz Aerospace, which digested all of the government's holdings. The company tried its wings by taking over Fokker, the troubled Dutch planemaker, but the venture crashed amid accusations about the German giant's lack of technical know-how and inability to meld the companies' business cultures.

France, in contrast, still has two or more companies where its rivals have cut back to one or none. Defense electronics are made by Thomson-CSF. The state-owned giant was recently privatized after a botched first attempt and is owned by Dassault, the plane and avionics maker that has always had very close ties to French politicians, and by Matra, a private company that has been unusually open to joint ventures with other European companies. French aircraft come from Dassault and state-owned Aerospatiale, missiles from Aerospatiale and Matra.

Aerospace is the centerpiece of the defense puzzle, industrialists say, because of the companies' size and visibility. The spotlight is already on this sector because of Airbus, which is to become a stand-alone company with its own management. Success in that reorganization will bring closer a merger of all Europe's aviation manufacturing — bringing combat and civil work under one roof.

That would enable Airbus to match Boeing's hopes of getting savings and technological synergies in its own commercial work and the military contracts it acquired in buying McDonnell Douglas.

But Airbus could be buffeted if the wider defense industry fails to materialize.

Signs that European defense industries are stumbling have prompted Lockheed Martin and Boeing to invite European companies to join in the new U.S. joint strike fighter or other ventures in which they could be subcontractors, a campaign that alarms many Europeans.

Accusing the United States of seeking global dominance in defense technologies, Mr. Bischoff of Daimler-Benz Aerospace warned in an unusually outspoken speech in February in Munich that time was running out for Germany and neighboring countries to produce a design for "Europeanization" of both defense and defense policy.

If governments cannot deliver, Europe's defense industry will transform anyway, he said, but in that case "the transformation will take place only between European private-sector companies, or trans-Atlantic alliances will be formed."

## KOREA: Searching for Family

Continued from Page 1

Millions more have some relatives, including distant cousins, in the North. Mr. Cho helped found a private group that sifts through North Korean newspapers and any other available sources to try to track relatives of South Koreans.

For decades, Mr. Cho tried to find out something about his family. He presumed his relatives had moved from the rather grand home in which he had grown up because his father had been a well-off landowner.

"Being able to see family is a right that everyone in the world has except here in Korea," he said. "It's indescribable the pain, the tragedy of waiting for so long in the hopes of seeing your own family."

President Kim Dae Jung's willingness to engage the North since his election in December is a large part of the reason there is new optimism that families will be able to communicate with relatives soon, and perhaps even see them.

As always, there is skepticism about North Korean intentions. Several times in the past Pyongyang has said it would allow family visits and then at the last moment insisted on a demand that killed the deal.

Mr. Cho said it once demanded that Seoul broadcast a Communist drama called "Blood Sea," knowing the South Koreans would refuse. In 1985, 50 relatives from each side visited one another, but the visits were stopped without explanation.

Time is running out for old men such as Mr. Cho, and for the young, their requests are becoming more insistent.

"What I want to tell the world is that



Cho Dong Young holding back tears as he spoke Tuesday of the family he had not heard from since leaving North Korea 51 years ago.

people like me are getting old, and they deserve to see their loved ones before they die," Mr. Cho said.

As he spoke, an 82-year man walked into his group's office in Seoul and asked for help in finding his family.

"I want to see my son," he said.

When the Korean War started in 1950, the man said, he fled to the South, along with millions of other men who feared being shot, imprisoned or rounded up for military service. He left behind his pregnant wife and 6-year-old son.

"I hoped I would be able to go back and see them in a week," he said.

Instead, his wife died, apparently from lack of food, before she delivered the child. He has received letters from his son via China. He once waited along

the China-North Korea border for 15 days as he tried to arrange for his son to escape.

The man, who asked not to be identified, said many South Koreans who hope to smuggle out their relatives or contact them through third parties hide their identities for fear that Pyongyang will punish their relatives.

The father, a retired electronics salesman, said he had seen a photo of his son as a grown man in which the son appeared tall but weighed only about 45 kilograms (100 pounds). He said all he can imagine is that the happy little boy of his memories is now sick, hungry and needing him.

"It is tearing my heart apart," he said.

"I need to see him before I die."

## AGNELLI: Patriarch and Magnate Shrugs Off the Years as He Views a Reforming Italy

Continued from Page 1

Mikhail Gorbachev? "Such a nice man, and he's in such difficulty," Fidel Castro? "He's very bourgeois. He speaks a good French, a little English, but if you talk to him about anything serious, it's pure Marxism."

Now, as Italy celebrates its admission last month into the elite club of Europe's pending monetary union, Mr. Agnelli and the business world he has long represented are facing a big change.

The old way of doing business in Italy was through closed-door deals among a few powerful families, masterminded by a secretive Milan-based investment bank that served as their personal broker. Even before the coming of the euro, as the new European currency is called, that system was dying out.

But pressures are increasing for the creation of a market that is even more open, more competitive and, ultimately, less tied to the fortunes of the Agnellis and Italy's other great quasi-feudal families. As the most cosmopolitan of Italian

businessmen, with flawless English and French, Mr. Agnelli himself is more outward-looking than many of his peers. Yet his family company, through its principal holding company, IFI, has also been the linchpin of the close-knit network of Italian capital that for decades has been bound together by Mediobanca of Milan.

Unlike some in that circle, Mr. Agnelli has never been the least bit ambiguous about his stand on Italy's joining the euro.

"I was personally in favor of a single currency and always believed that it would happen, even in the darkest days," he said. Had Italy failed to make the grade, he said, the result would have been a "tragedy — a terrible thing for the government, for the country and for the morale of Italians psychologically."

"You have to look at what has been done in Italy between 1992 and today," he said. "Now, it is one of the Continental European countries which are joining the same goal. Then, we were in trouble."

Joining the European currency — and by extension, the Continent's ambitions

to compete successfully on a shrinking world stage — will put more pressure on Italy, Mr. Agnelli said. "Now we start," he said. "Italy will have to engage with strong partners in a difficult battle. We've got to reform a lot of the old-fashioned way of doing things."

Mr. Agnelli's nephew and designated successor, Giovanni Alberto Agnelli, whose death from cancer at the age of 33 sent Italy into public mourning last December, was the first to signal publicly the family's readiness to shift with the times. In an interview in 1996, he spoke of the coming "generational change" that was necessary.

Within days of the younger Mr. Agnelli's death, his family assured its future place in the automaker Fiat, where it controls 33 percent of the shares, with the nomination of John Elkann, the 22-year-old son of the elder Mr. Agnelli's daughter, Margherita, to its board.

"I think he has all the qualifications to be a helpful person," said Mr. Agnelli, whose own 44-year-old son, Edoardo, had been passed over in the succession.

In the meantime, Fiat has announced the retirement this June of its longtime chairman, Cesare Romiti, the tough-talking businessman who restored the company's fortunes in the 1970s, and his replacement by Paolo Fresco, a vice chairman of General Electric Co.

Mr. Agnelli credits successive Italian governments with making the enormous efforts required to meet the euro's standards — trimming the national budget deficit, cutting social spending and privatizing Italy's large state sector.

With its recent purchase of 0.6 percent of the shares of Telecom, the Italian telephone company, the Agnelli family, through IFI, showed its readiness to be a player in the next phase of capitalism.

That investment once again brought criticism about the long arm of the Agnellis. But it is criticism that Mr. Agnelli brushes off with an airy noblesse oblige. "There was a reaction in the way that people say we've got too much," he said. "But on the whole, in the way of looking at problems, and at running things, I think they trust us more than others."

U.S. Alarm on

Apple Drops Dalai

From Asia Ad Cam

Report to

Clinton: President to

Continued from Page 1

Clinton: President to

Clinton: President to

Clinton: President to

Clinton: President to



INTERNATIONAL

# U.S. Alarm on Germ and Chemical Arms Skips 2 Allies

By Dana Priest  
Washington Post Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — During the recent showdown with Iraq, the Clinton administration released CIA reports, used televised props and convened a global town meeting to drive home the point that chemical and biological weapons represented a particularly horrifying menace to the world.

But in their campaign to make people aware of the dangers posed by such weapons, officials have focused almost exclusively on Middle Eastern countries with which the United States has hostile relations. The stockpiles and suspected testing programs of Israel and Egypt, the closest U.S. allies in the region, attract barely a mention.

Administration officials say they

publicly address the countries they are the most worried about — with Iraq at the top of the list — and that highlighting Israel and Egypt would only hinder Washington's ability to get those countries to eventually sign a peace accord that would open the door to serious disarmament discussions.

"Naturally we're most concerned about the threat from rogue regimes," said Gary Samore, special assistant to the president and senior director for nonproliferation at the National Security Council, "but the United States also supports universal adherence to the international nonproliferation treaties."

Other, arms control experts, however, contend that the United States, by its selective warnings, is undermining its credibility among important Arab states and feeding a

cycle of suspicion that has accompanied other failed attempts at slowing the arms race in the Middle East.

"It diminishes the authority we might bring to this area," said Michael Moodie, president of the Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute and a former assistant director at the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. "We have to find a way to talk about all the programs."

The Middle East draws particular scrutiny because it has the world's highest concentration of countries capable of chemical warfare, and because no other region combines tensions and the proliferation of these weapons with such concrete threats to Americans abroad. About 37,000 U.S. troops are stationed in the countries and waters of the Gulf.

But all of the administration's most authoritative public reports on the subject — the Defense Department's 1997 proliferation study, the CIA's June 1997 report on technology acquisition and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency's last annual report in 1996 — fail to mention Israel and devote only a sentence or two to Egypt.

Documents with limited circulation and interviews with officials who declined to be named at the Defense Department, the National Security Council and other U.S. intelligence sources, as well as assessments published by private organizations, show that both countries have chemical weapons programs and are believed to have biological ones as well.

One defense intelligence report given limited distribution lists both

Israel and Egypt as having "active chemical weapons programs."

A handful of research organizations using foreign and U.S. government sources, including the Henry L. Stimson Center, say that both Egypt and Israel are "suspected biological weapons proliferators."

A once-secret 1990 Defense Intelligence Agency report, obtained through the Freedom of Information Act by E. J. Hogendorn of Human Rights Watch, identifies in a photograph, which is blanked out, an Israeli chemical weapons testing facility.

Egypt was the region's first country to develop and employ chemical arms when it dropped bombs filled with phosgene and mustard gas against Yemeni forces in the mid-1960s, according to the Defense Intelligence Agency, and it continues to have a stockpile of agents.

The 1996 Arms Control and Disarmament Agency report says that Egypt developed biological warfare agents by 1972 and that it remains likely that Egypt still has the capability to conduct biological warfare.

Saudi Arabia, also a U.S. ally, rarely shows up on any government proliferation assessment. Still, government officials acknowledge they suspect it is developing or already has chemical weapons and has Chinese medium-range CSS-2 ballistic missiles that can carry chemical weapons.

Iraq, however, is the only country in the region that is believed to have filled warheads that could be used at a moment's notice with chemical or biological agents.

In the Middle East, proliferation concerns historically have taken a back seat to U.S. efforts to move the peace process along. For this reason, said Seth Carus, a Middle East proliferation specialist at the National Defense University, U.S. officials "will not point the finger at Egypt and Israel, and they are somewhat muted in what they say about Syria."

The stalemate in the Middle East peace effort also is preventing states there from signing treaties aimed at eliminating weapons of mass destruction.

Egypt, for example, refuses to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention until Israel signs the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which calls for inspections of nuclear facilities and which Israel will not sign. Israel has signed the Chemical Weapons Convention, but the Knesset is unlikely to ratify it.

BRIEFLY

## Momoh Charged With Treason

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — Sierra Leone's former president, Joseph Saidu Momoh, and 13 others were charged with treason in a Freetown court on Tuesday in connection with a coup last May.

The 13 included a prominent broadcaster and former BBC journalist, Hilton Fyle, and senior members of the Armed Forces Ruling Council that toppled President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah in May. A group of 21 others appeared in the same magistrate's court on April 6 to face the first charges over the coup since Nigerian-led regional troops reinstated Mr. Kabbah from exile in Guinea in March.

No pleas were taken from the defendants, who were returned to custody until the next scheduled hearing on April 21.

(Reuters)

## Yeltsin and Hashimoto to Meet

TOKYO — President Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan will take their countries' complicated ties a step farther from World War II in a summit meeting that is expected to set the tone, if not the substance, of relations into the next century, analysts said.

When the two statesmen meet in the Japanese resort of Kawana on April 18 and 19, they will be carrying the momentum of improved relations that was set in motion when they met in Russia in November.

But some observers of Japan-Russia diplomacy believe the two sides, while well-meaning in their intention to forge ahead with improved relations, are far apart on key issues such as territorial disputes and Japanese investment in Russia.

(Reuters)

## A New Pledge in War on Drugs

WASHINGTON — Leaders from across the Americas will agree to let the Organization of American States evaluate their countries' efforts to fight narcotics as part of a new anti-drug alliance, officials said.

The multilateral evaluation system, to be endorsed at the upcoming Summit of the Americas in Chile, is meant to replace the annual blacklisting by the United States that has caused much ill will in Latin America.

The new system will put as much emphasis on reducing drug consumption in the cities of the United States as it does on attacking production in Latin American fields. "We will make progress at this summit in expanding the multilateral alliance against drugs," said Sandy Berger, President Bill Clinton's national security adviser.

(Reuters)

## Bolivian Police Hit Coca Plants

LA PAZ — Defying local protesters, hundreds of Bolivian police and soldiers have begun cutting down illegal coca plants in one of the world's largest cocaine-producing regions.

Vice Minister of the Interior Rafael Canedo, who is responsible for the eradication of coca fields, said the government planned to destroy 10,000 hectares (25,000 acres) this year, about a quarter of the country's coca-leaf crop. The security forces moved into several communities and began destroying the plants with machetes. Farmers have opposed the eradication and called for roadblocks and protests against the operation.

(Reuters)

## Apple Drops Dalai Lama From Asia Ad Campaign

By Mark Landler  
New York Times Staff Writer

HONG KONG — Apple Computer Inc., the self-styled rebel of the U.S. computer industry, has removed images of the Dalai Lama from its advertising campaign here for fear of offending China.

Apple has used Tibet's exiled spiritual leader in an ad campaign in the United States where he appears as one of a series of revolutionary figures drawn from the worlds of politics, academia, culture and business. But the Dalai Lama will be conspicuously absent from Apple's ads in Asia, which will instead feature Muhammad Ali, Mohandas Gandhi, Alfred Hitchcock, Pablo Picasso and Amelia Earhart.

"Where there are political sensitivities, we did not want to offend anyone," said Sue Sara, a spokeswoman for Apple's Asia-Pacific division in Sydney. "We needed to decide on images that were appropriate across the region."

Ms. Sara said Beijing did not put pressure on Apple to leave the Dalai Lama out of its advertising. But she added, "Our management here is Chinese, so we're pretty aware of the sensitivities."

The Dalai Lama, who fled Tibet in 1959 after a decade in which China annexed his secluded country,

remains a potent symbol of Chinese oppression.

Apple's decision drew a tart response from the Dalai Lama's spokesman in London, who said the Tibetan leader had given the company permission to use his image around the world and had not been told about the decision.

"It is unfortunate that they see an advantage in using him selectively," said Tseten Samdup, the spokesman for the Dalai Lama. "Obviously, it has to do with not offending China, which is such a huge market for them."

In fact, mainland China is currently a tiny market for Apple. It shipped just over 10,000 Macintosh and Notebook computers to the country in 1997, according to Dataquest, a market research firm.

But the overall Chinese market generated 2.2 million shipments of personal computers in 1997, mostly by domestic manufacturers, according to Dataquest. So there is plenty of room for Apple to grow.

Apple has given conflicting responses for its decision not to use the Dalai Lama. A company executive initially said Apple wanted people more recognizable in the region than the Dalai Lama. On Tuesday, Apple acknowledged that its decision had little to do with the notoriety of the Tibetan leader.



PAWS AND REFRESHMENT — A Syrian brown bear at the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo seeking relief from the heat with a frozen treat on Tuesday, the fourth straight day of temperatures near 35 degrees centigrade (95 degrees Fahrenheit).

## IRAQ: Report to UN Claims Saddam Has Executed 1,500 in Past Year

Continued from Page 1

record — along with a demonstrable end to prohibited weapons programs — a prerequisite to the lifting of economic sanctions that were imposed on Iraq in 1990 after the country's invasion of Kuwait.

The United States is likely to face pressures in the UN Security Council by the end of this month, however, to reward Iraq for what appears to be a new spirit of cooperation with arms inspections.

Mr. van der Stoep, who holds the title of United Nations Special Rapporteur on Iraq, has been refused entry to the country since 1992. His survey, completed last month, is based on reports and doc-

uments smuggled out of Iraq as well as on information compiled from a number of sources by exiled Iraqi opposition groups. Mr. van der Stoep also collected information in Turkey because information often reaches that country through Iraqi Kurds who live in the border area.

His report paints a picture of persistent persecutions of Kurds, Shiite tribes in the southern marshes, Turkomans and other ethnic or religious groups. It describes a relentless pursuit of all political critics or would-be critics.

Among the instances of summary executions that Mr. van der Stoep cited were the killings in October of 14 military officers and politicians who were

accused of planning an attempt on Mr. Saddam's life. In another instance, he said 23 people were sentenced to death, among them three military officers charged with "maneuvering" against the government.

Mr. van der Stoep received reports of the executions of army deserters, Islamic activists, Shiite tribe members and people connected with opposition groups that maintain offices in exile — including nine people with ties to a group called the Iraqi National Council and seven people associated with another group, the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

As with other UN human rights investigators, Mr. van der Stoep guards his sources of information to protect them from retaliation. His work is given considerable credibility by many because he has been reporting on Iraq since the Gulf War.

"Iraqi law imposes life imprisonment and, in certain cases, death on anyone insulting the president," the report says. It notes that the Iraqi government explanation is that officials distinguish between criticism and insult, reserving death for the latter. Mr. van der Stoep said he found this distinction "neither convincing in theory nor reflective of the factual situation in Iraq."

Membership in political parties not officially working with the governing Ba'ath Party is punishable by death, the report says. And crimes against property can also bring the death penalty or, in some cases, disfigurement. Iraqi thieves may be branded, or limbs may be amputated, or both. In December, Iraq executed four Jordanian students who had smuggled \$850 in auto parts into the country.

In addition to information about executions, the report detailed a continuing Iraqi policy of forcibly resettling people belonging to ethnic minorities — especially Kurds and Turkomans in Kirkuk, north of Baghdad — and of moving Arabs into that region. Mr. van der Stoep said Arabs were given incentives of money and apartments to settle in Kirkuk.

"Families who are perceived to be opposed to the regime, families who have relatives outside Iraq or in southern Iraq and those who have relatives in detention or executed are said to be the first targets of forced displacement," the report said. It added that officials from the Ba'ath Party were given the power to move targeted families, often with as little as 24 hours' notice.

Iraq has told UN committees that it is fighting a rising crime wave brought on by the economic sanctions. The van der Stoep report challenges that explanation and also criticizes Iraq for not accepting for more than four years a Security Council plan allowing the limited sale of oil to raise money for food and medicine.

"Instead, the government of Iraq decided to rely only on domestic production to meet the humanitarian needs of its people — preferring to let innocent people suffer while the government maneuvered to get sanctions lifted," the report said.

## CLINTON: President to Press Free Trade

Continued from Page 1

Samuel Berger. Mr. Clinton convened the first hemispheric summit meeting in Miami in December 1994.

Mr. Berger said the president was committed to forging a new relationship with Latin American and Caribbean countries based on their "quiet revolution," the transition to democratic governments and free-market economies.

If investment of presidential time is an accurate gauge of presidential interest, Mr. Clinton can fairly claim to be more involved with Latin America and the Caribbean than any of his recent predecessors. As Mr. Berger noted, Mr. Clinton "last year went to Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean in May, and in October went to Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina."

At the time of the 1994 gathering in Miami, Washington was just beginning to celebrate a new era in the Americas in which authoritarian rule, military dictatorship, arms races and controlled economies were giving way to democracy and economic reform. Large countries like Brazil and Argentina were leaving behind the era of hyperinflation and systematic human rights abuses; Central America was emerging from the brutal civil conflicts of the Cold War era.

As Mr. Clinton heads for Chile on Wednesday night, his agenda contains few reminders of those painful years. As Mr. Berger and other senior officials have never tire of pointing out, only Cuba has resisted the hemisphere's democratic wave, although democracy appears shaky in Paraguay and Colombia, and only Cuba remains committed to a centrally planned economy.

According to the U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky, the result has been a burst of economic opportunity for U.S. business.

Last year, she said, "Our exports to Latin America and the Caribbean grew more than three times as fast. During the second half of 1997, we exported more to our hemisphere than to the entirety of the European Union."

Mr. Clinton had hoped to go to Santiago armed with "fast track" authority

from Congress to negotiate a Free Trade Area of the Americas, as was agreed to at the Miami summit meeting.

Congress balked at giving the president that authority, which would have enabled him to negotiate an agreement subject to congressional approval but not amendment. However, officials said negotiations would begin in Santiago anyway.

"As important as that political declaration was in 1994," Ms. Barshefsky said, "the formal launch of these negotiations following three and a half years of preparatory work ensures the realization of the Miami vision."

"There will be a free-trade area of the Americas, a comprehensive launch will be initiated in Santiago along with all that that implies."

■ It Could Be Worse

When Mr. Clinton sits down with the leaders of 33 other Western Hemisphere countries by the end of the week, many of them would probably be glad to swap their personal problems for his. The Associated Press reported.

Mr. Clinton has been dealing with questions about his sexual behavior, his land investments and his campaign contributions. Some of the leaders at the Summit of the Americas probably would think that is nothing compared with their troubles.

Take President Ernesto Samper of Colombia, for example. A lame duck heading into his last month in office, he would be delighted to be criticized for something as relatively frivolous as hosting coffee klatches at the presidential palace for big money donors.

Mr. Samper's popularity ratings have been stuck in single digits since 1994, when evidence surfaced that he took \$6.1 million in campaign donations from the Cali drug cartel.

He is also stuck with a sluggish economy and a decades-old rebel insurgency.

In Paraguay, coup rumors are sweeping Asuncion as President Juan Carlos Wasmosy, whose administration has been accused of corruption and cronyism, fights to overturn the results of his party's primary.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER







OPINION/LETTERS

# U.S. Brains Alone Can't Power Silicon Valley

By Thomas L. Friedman

**PALO ALTO, California** — T.J. Rodgers, founder of Cypress Semiconductor, is angry, and he is not a man to hide his feelings. An entire wall of his office is proudly decorated with framed lawsuits filed against his company by rivals. Today what he is angry about is immigration — the lack of it.

Silicon Valley has a huge shortage of computer engineers, and each year it makes up for that shortage by trying to cream off the best brains from around the world and bring them here. But the Clinton-Gore team, caving in to organized labor, has been trying to limit their entry, even though there are not enough Americans to fill these high-tech jobs.

"For every foreign engineer you let me bring into this country and put to work at Cypress, I will guarantee you five new jobs locally to manufacture a microchip, sell the chip, ship the chip, market the chip and administer the chip," says Mr. Rodgers.

"Do I want to take away jobs from Americans? Heck no. If I could hire all the engineers I need locally, I'd love to do it. But I can't. They're just not here."

So if we don't bring them here, they will still be engineers in their home countries, only instead of work-

ing for us they will be working for Hitachi or Samsung, and they will compete with us from overseas and take away our wealth."

The facts: Since 1990 there has been a cap of 65,000 H-1B visas per fiscal year (Oct. 1 to Sept. 30) for foreigners coming into America for high-tech and other specialty jobs. In 1997, the 65,000 cap was reached a month before the end of the fiscal year, and this year the cap will be reached in May, so there will be a huge shortage.

Republican Senator Spencer Abraham of Michigan, the grandson of Lebanese immigrants, has sponsored a bill, the American Competitiveness Act, that would lift the cap to 95,000 but also increase spending on high-tech education for low-income students in America. It is a good bill, and it just passed the Judiciary Committee by 12 to 6, despite administration opposition.

The crazy thing is that a computer engineer working in India makes \$60,000 a year, and one in Silicon Valley makes \$60,000 a year. So this is a case of American business not wanting to move high-paying U.S.

jobs to lower-paying countries, but just the opposite.

This is because in the high-tech business there is a real advantage to having your knowledge team together in one place — and right now the place that is the core of this knowledge industry is America.

But if U.S. companies are told to put up "No Vacancy" signs, they are inevitably going to move more knowledge operations overseas, and that will spur more innovation, wealth creation and jobs over there. The idea that America would educate all these foreign computer engineers in U.S. universities and then send them home to compete with America is nuts.

Personally, I favor a very liberal approach to all legal immigration and refugee asylum. Any Haitian who has the guts and energy to build a boat from milk cartons and sail to America's shores is someone I would never turn back. But in the case of high-tech workers, it is so obvious that they are the key to the future. One only hopes that the Senate will ignore the administration and approve the increase.

"Look," says Mr. Rodgers, "the winners and losers in the information age will be differentiated by brainpower. But we have senators, like Ted

Kennedy, who don't see that. They want to send back the first-round draft choices of the intellectual world so that they can compete against us in their homelands."

"Four out of my 10 vice presidents are immigrants. Some 35 percent of my engineers are immigrants. My VP of research — the guy who designs my most advanced chips — is from Cuba."

Would you like the jobs in your country depending on only the engineers your country could produce, or would you like to have access to the top 10 percent of all engineers in the world? The United States is the only country that really has that access today. Japan, Switzerland, Germany — they have no tradition of immigration, and that will be a huge disadvantage to them.

"It takes 2 percent of Americans to feed us all, and 5 percent to make everything we need," notes Mr. Rodgers. "Everything else will be service and information technology, and in that world humans and brains will be the key variable. Any country that would limit its brainpower to a single select group from that country alone is going to self-destruct."

The New York Times

# A Glacial Response to 'Titanic'

By Richard Pells

**BONN** — There are 250,000 people in Iceland. As of March, 100,000 of them had seen "Titanic." In Iceland, as elsewhere in Europe, another American movie has attracted huge audiences and become a cultural phenomenon.

Yet a number of Europeans tell me they refuse to see "Titanic" on principle. What "principle," I ask, do they have in mind? They answer with a litany of complaints about the movie and about American mass

There are many explanations — economic, technological and historical — for the imbalance in the cultural relationships between the two continents. But among the most important is a difference in attitude toward consumers.

As an American temporarily living in Germany, I am struck by the disdain for the needs and opinions of customers, and for the mentality of ordinary people. In many parts of Europe, I have encountered a persistent elitism among intellectuals and academics, a preference for the marginal over the mainstream, a sympathy for the unpopular and incomprehensible. A work of art, it is felt, need not be marketed or hyped; it will naturally find its audience.

Educated Europeans are suspicious of the idea that salesmanship may be indispensable in reaching consumers even of high culture. On the contrary, they believe that commercial success and artistic excellence are incompatible. Thus all those Icelanders buying tickets to "Titanic" prove that the movie cannot be a work of art.

I am not suggesting that, as in America, the customer is always right. But neither are consumers, either in department stores or movie theaters, invariably wrong. Nor should they be ignored by shopkeepers, professors or filmmakers.

In effect, the American regard for the consumer has resulted in a culture that is democratic, one that is accessible to audiences. Consequently, American culture can be vulgar and witless. But it can also be, as in the case of "Titanic," emotionally and artistically compelling for millions of people.

Until European artists and intellectuals take these millions into account, until they relinquish their mistrust of the masses, they will not be able to create works that compete with America's cultural exports.

I do not know whether a European director could have made "Titanic." To do so, he or she would have needed to be as maniacal as James Cameron. And as brilliant a filmmaker.

Which raises a final paradox. American culture may be democratic, but it is also the product of talented individuals. "Titanic" reminds us that the creation of culture ultimately depends not on marketing campaigns nor even on audience acceptance, but on an individual's genius and imagination.

The writer, a Fulbright professor at Bonn University, is the author of "Not Like Us: How Europeans Have Loved, Hated and Transformed American Culture Since World War II." He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

# 'Cool Britannia' Looks More Like Fool Britannia

By Philip Bowring

**LONDON** — Asian and European heads of government arriving for the Asia-Europe summit meeting earlier this month were greeted with the latest hit of sloganeering from the Tony Blair public relations machine: Out with fuddy-duddy traditions, in with modern Britain's symbols.

No more Rule Britannia. Now it's Cool Britannia, and Her Majesty's diplomats will be delivering the message of the New Britain to the world.

Also on display was the Blairite Britain enshrined in a "bouncy castle" of small inflatable domes erected on London's Horse Guards Parade. This exhibition, dubbed "powerhouse.uk" was supposed to represent the best of modern Britain. Critics suggested it showed a nation obsessed with style that confuses trendiness with modernity.

It may not matter that old British brands, such as Rolls-Royce, are being sold off. But there is scant sign here of new ones to replace them, or of anything to reverse the decline of British manufacturing know-how.

The "new" Britain on display was a combination of presumption and tackiness that, after less than a year in office, is the hallmark of the Blair administration. Asians were left wondering how the nation ever managed to acquire an empire, and Europeans whether Britain would ever be ready to join the single currency.

Summit participants got a look at Britain, but most Britons were barely aware that Britain was the host of the most important gathering of leaders likely to assemble here for many a year. The start of the meeting made the front page of only one of the five so-called quality British newspapers. The broadcast media were no better, and the tabloids mostly ignored the summit meeting entirely.

Maybe they believe that Britannia "cool" is so sweeping that Messrs. Chirac and Hashimoto, Zhu and Kohl will make a habit of spending springtime in London.

It is true that the Asia-Europe summit meeting was more symbol than substance. But one might have expected that, with Asian turmoil, EMU progress and China's Zhu Rongji making his first foreign trip since being appointed prime minister, the British media might have been able to turn their attention away from parochial issues, repeated scandals and the late Princess Di. But no.

Mr. Blair cannot directly be blamed for this. Trivia, sensationalism, phony scoops and falling standards of news judgment have blighted the British press for several years. However, Mr. Blair is very much in tune with a narrow, parochial and self-absorbed media culture. Ambassadors

of Cool Britannia much feted in Downing Street turn out to be drug-crazed and abusive pop stars who disgrace the nation overseas.

The Blair obsession with image, with form over substance, adds to the media's sense of importance. Media manipulation and news management are natural goals of

plified by Mr. Blair's exploitation of the Princess Di cult and driven by the tabloid media, is replacing both institutional power and grassroots participatory democracy.

The presidential trend might have some merits were it accompanied by an American-style separation of powers. But the lack of checks and balances has contributed to a string of sleazy episodes of influence peddling and jobs for the boys remarkable for a government still so young.

"In just 11 months it has notched up an aggregate of venality, Tammany and perfidy which the Tories took years to put on board," said the leftist columnist John Pilger in the New Statesman.

A recent example found Mr. Blair himself intervening on behalf of the business interests of Rupert Murdoch. Though Mr. Murdoch is the largest media owner in Britain, these are not British interests. Mr. Murdoch's use for commercial ends of politicians' assumptions about his media's influence is natural.

Mr. Blair's conniving has been shocking but is perhaps the inevitable consequence of an administration preoccupied with media presentation. The episode was especially striking for Asian leaders now being lectured by the West about cronyism and improper government-business links.

It fits with New Labour's evident lack of ideology or

core values. It may be good politics in terms of photo opportunities, political horse-trading or the fickle judgments of financial markets to follow: most of Margaret Thatcher's social and economic policies, or to President Bill Clinton's poodle on Iraq, it certainly makes sense for Britain not to be at constant war with Brussels.

There is scant sign, however, of an administration with the sense of purpose to deal with a real crisis when one arises or to institute radical changes in which it really believes. The Blair government is mostly about appearances.

Meanwhile, two of Britain's larger contributions to the world are under threat at home. Parliamentary government is in decline. And the BBC World Service, once the global voice of the English language, is being eroded to pay for more trendy, trivial domestic programming. Cool Britannia: Fool Britannia.

International Herald Tribune

**The Blair government, with its mastery of media manipulation, is mostly about appearances.**

government. But Mr. Blair and his right-hand men have taken it to new heights. Ministers have even found themselves on the receiving end of policy directives from Mr. Blair's press secretary (and former Robert Maxwell protégé) Alastair Campbell.

There is a direct link between this media-driven system and the presidential style of government that Mr. Blair has adopted.

Given Labour's huge majority, Parliament is more than ever a rubber stamp, and ministers are more than ever subservient to Downing Street. Personalized populism, ex-

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Russia Today

Regarding "This Isn't the Way to Help Russia" (Opinion, April 11) by Thomas L. Friedman:

Mr. Friedman thinks we Americans fought the Cold War not to contain Russia but to change Russia into a normal, democratic country with which the United States can cooperate on the post-Cold War agenda. He thus opposes NATO expansion, which he sees as strengthening Russian foes of democracy. But the situation is more complicated than this.

I came to Russia in 1990, planning to play a bit part in the transformation of Russia as a teacher of economics. I am still at it, but along the way I have learned a couple of things.

One is that changing Russia into a normal, democratic country ready to live quietly within its own borders is an agenda for a century, not for a decade. American foreign policy today must deal with Russia as it is and as it will be

for a long time, not with a dream-Russia that may exist several generations from now. The Russia that now exists still views itself as a big power only temporarily down on its luck. All of the former Soviet Union and much of the rest of the former Soviet empire are regions still seen as a legitimate sphere of influence.

The states that inhabit that sphere are right to remember Soviet invasions, repressions and deportations, and are fully justified in seeking NATO membership to consolidate their ties with the West.

The other thing I have learned is that Russia is in no hurry to reject its Soviet past. Lenin lies undisturbed in Red Square, and there have been only a handful of name changes to streets, cities and educational institutions dedicated to Bolshevism's bloodiest fanatics. Russians cry foul when SS veterans parade in Latvia, but at home they see parades by pensioners waving Stalin portraits as harmless nostalgia for better times.

It is revealing that Boris

Yeltsin's new prime minister designate, supposedly a member of the post-Cold War generation, professes admiration for the "ideals" of communism, apparently having repudiated only the failed methods of central planning.

The kind of developments that would permit the kind of cooperative relationship between Russia and America that Mr. Friedman dreams of — respect for individual rights, individual responsibility and tolerance, including religious tolerance — are very slow to emerge.

The problem is not that democracy in Russia is still shaky. Democracy in Russia is working: Russia's elected leaders reflect the thoughts of the voters on the important issues of the day. There is no political party in Russia today that represents the kind of changed Russia that Mr. Friedman dreams of. The votes are not there to support such a party.

None of this means that America should treat Russia

as an enemy, or that cooperation in specific areas of common interest is not possible. Nonetheless, while we continue to invest in Russian democracy and to cooperate where we can, we should also move forward with NATO expansion, keeping firmly in mind how things are, not how we wish them to be.

EDWIN G. DOLAN,  
Moscow.

The writer is president of the American Institute of Business and Economics in Moscow.

### Smoking Abroad

American tobacco companies' targeting of foreign markets, now that their U.S. market is coming under more government control ("Flogging Cigarettes Elsewhere," Opinion, April 2), by Jim Hoagland, has been obvious to many of us living abroad. Restraints on tobacco sales and use, if enacted at all here in Europe, are rarely enforced.

Also, tobacco is a government monopoly in many countries, making tremendous profits and providing sizable tax revenues. Are foreign governments going to abandon all this at the behest of the United States?

We Americans are envious for our economic and military strength but are criticized for trying to be the world's policeman. Should we now become the world's public health officer and spend taxpayers' money to fund anti-smoking campaigns abroad? Do you think anyone would listen if we did?

VINCE MAHLER,  
Vienna.

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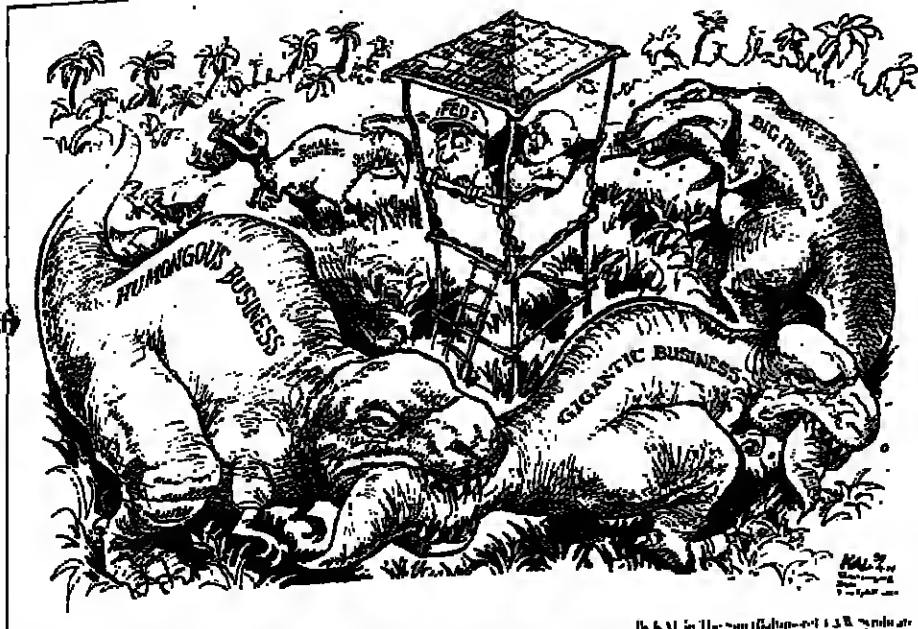
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By A. L. in the International Herald Tribune

**'Relax! What could go wrong here in 'Mergerassic Park'?**



## Jamaican Music Moves From Materialism Back to the Message

By Larry Rohter  
New York Times Service

**K**INGSTON, Jamaica—Every musical style to emerge from Jamaica over the past 35 years has eventually achieved international popularity. Reggae is part of the vocabulary of every working pop musician. The disc jockeys known as toasters are now acknowledged as the earliest progenitors of rap, and ska has lately become the favorite of skateboarders and punk bands the world over.

But the story has been different with the homegrown style called dancehall. While dominating Jamaican popular music for most of the last decade, dancehall has remained on the fringes of pop consciousness, even though its driving electronic beat and sex- and violence-soaked lyrics would seem to make it a prime candidate for crossover in an era in which the lowest common denominator reigns supreme.

Now, however, an emerging generation of young Jamaican artists is subverting the dancehall scene and improving its prospects for international acceptance by taking the music back to its roots in reggae and Rastafarian utopianism. Instead of celebrating girls and guns, the new breed, led by singers and songwriters like Luciano, Anthony B., Sizzla, Beenie Man and Tony Rebel, urge Jamaicans to save their country and their souls.

The proper function of the Jamaican artist is to be "missionary, visionary and messenger," said Luciano, the sweet-voiced, intensely spiritual vocalist whose stirring songs of redemption and uplift have become virtual anthems here in recent years. "Yes, there are still people around who are singing slack lyrics about the silly things in life, like what they going to do to their woman. But the pendulum is swinging back the other way."

If so, worsening political and eco-

nomic conditions in Jamaica may be hastening the shift. Growth has ground to a halt, and in 1997 more than 1,000 people were killed here, a murder rate more than three times that of New York City. In such an environment, Jamaicans seem more inclined to reflect than to party, and musicians willing to assume the prophetic role once played by Bob Marley have enhanced their credibility and popularity.

"We Jamaicans see ourselves as a powerful world cultural force, and we can't understand why as a people we can't get the economics right, why the social and political conditions can't be better," explained Carl Bradshaw, a veteran actor and screenwriter who is now director of operations for Island Entertainment Jamaica, the country's leading record label for the last 40 years.

Tony Rebel and Garnet Silk, who died in a fire in 1994, were among the first on the dancehall scene to lead the way back toward the Rastafarian tradition, with its

emphasis on social criticism in biblical language.

But a major turning point was the success of Anthony B.'s "Fire Pon Rome," an incendiary attack on wealth and political privilege released in 1996. Quickly banned from the airwaves not because of lewdness but because it was deemed seditious and libelous, the song found a home in the dance halls, pushing aside more frivolous fare and making hits of both "So Many Things," the 22-year-old singer's debut album, and "Universal Struggle," his recent follow-up.

"Even before the song came out, we all knew it was going to be banned, because we named specific people" as responsible for the nation's problems, said Anthony B., whose real name is Keith Anthony Blair. Sizzla, an even more recent and increasingly influential arrival, has tried to take a middle position, striking a balance between Luciano's spirituality and Anthony B.'s rebelliousness. Beenie Man, who started

as rapid-fire and lewd as any rapper and still likes to sing in a heavy patois so as to maintain his roots credentials, specializes in humorous, cutting social commentary.

As a result of the change in mood here, the twin pillars of dancehall music—Yellowman, who led the initial shift to lascivious lyrics, and Shabba Ranks, who became the movement's boastful byproduct—have been replaced by songs like "Wicked Inna Bed"—are now clearly in eclipse.

**T**HE peculiar flavor of the dancehall scene was captured in "Dancehall Queen," a feature film about a huroble Kingston street vendor who, like Cinderella, becomes the mysterious queen of the ball. The movie, recently released direct to video in the United States, is now the biggest box-office attraction in Jamaican history. But a strong selling point for the film has been performance scenes

featuring Anthony B. and Beenie Man, who have criticized dancehall's excesses and superficiality.

The effort to transform and reinvent dancehall, however, focuses as much on melody and harmony as on lyrics and fashion. Musicians and listeners alike appear to have grown tired of the genre's increasingly stripped-down and minimalist sound, a product of dancehall's fascination with American hip-hop, which itself derives from the Jamaican tradition of disc jockeys declaiming over instrumental "dub" tracks.

"I was listening to something the other day, and I only heard a drum machine and a voice, so I said to myself, 'What is happening here?'" complained Ernest Ranglin, the guitarist and arranger who is the founding father of modern Jamaican music. "It's a good beat, but that's all there is to it. It's like the dancehall artists don't want to make changes in the tune. It's all one chord, because they have cut out the piano and everything else."

## Paris Operas Bow to Their Pasts

By David Stevens  
International Herald Tribune

**P**ARIS—The Paris Opera and the Opera Comique, with an eye to history as well as repertory, have both come up with new productions of works that loom large in their own past, and in performances of musical distinction.

At the Bastille, the Opera is staging its second production of Alban Berg's "Lulu," 19 years after the company mounted the world premiere of the completed version of a work that had previously always been given as the incomplete torso the composer left. Debussy's "Pelléas et Mélisande" belongs to the Comique, where it had its world premiere in 1902, but where it had not been seen in more than a quarter-century.

In the new staging of "Lulu," Willy Decker and his designer, Wolfgang Gussmann, sidestep Berg's ultra-specific scenic instructions without being unfaithful to the spirit. The basic set consists of a cream-colored curved wall perforated by several doors, while above it is a kind of dark grandstand peopled most of the time by a group of men in identical dark coats and fedoras, and where events only alluded to in the text are shown or mimed.

Thus, Lulu can be seen pretending to faint at the sight of Dr. Schoen and his fiancée before she storms into the theater dressing room and her confrontation with Dr. Schoen. Or Lulu can be seen street-walking and bringing back to her garret the men who figure in the final scene.



A scene from "Lulu" at the Paris Opera.

Ladders are used for access to the lower stage, accentuating the idea that it is a semi-isolated scene of deadly combat, like a bullring. The strong erotic clement of the opera is underlined in some of Lulu's costumes and in accessories like the red divan in the form of a pair of lips or the segments of the fetish-portrait.

Dennis Russell Davies was the secure and dramatically aware conductor. Anna-Katharina Behnke negotiated Lulu's vocal stratosphere with fearless aplomb and was a convincing actress, while Julia Juon was a warm-voiced,

restrained Geschwitz. Wolfgang Schoene was the experienced Dr. Schoen. David Kuebler a lyrical Alwa. Carlos Feller a splendidly scruffy Schigolch, while Eirian James, Claude Pia, Gunter von Kannen and Robert Wörle managed their multiple roles adroitly.

At the Salle Favart, the veteran Georges Pretre, with the Orchestre National in the pit, was in charge of a richly nuanced yet full-voiced reading of the Debussy score.

Pierre Medecin and his designer, Andreas Reinhardt, made full use of the stage in this highly personal take on the story. Golaud is omnipresent, seated at the front of the stage as if in his living room, drinking, reading, moping about the past and advancing years, occasionally getting up to join the action with characters who, after all, are only in his imagination.

Mélisande has short hair, although the long tresses in the text are hinted at in the cascade of shooting stars in the background. The back wall of the stage suggests a castle, and its openings let in seascape and stony skies. The impression that water is everywhere is reinforced by a mechanism that permitted water to flow over the stage constantly.

Francois Le Roux, hitherto a Pelléas, sang his first Golaud with power and sensitivity, while William Dazley and Anne-Marguerite Worsler sang the title roles handsomely. Christian Treguer was a sonorous Arkel, and an unidentified boy soprano from the Bad Tölz choir was the touching Ynold.

### BOOKS

#### NOSFERATU

By Jim Shepard. 215 pages.  
\$22. Knopf.

Reviewed by  
Dennis Drabelle

**A**FEW years ago the National Gallery of Art screened the restored "Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horrors," the German director F.W. Murnau's barely disguised version of Bram Stoker's novel "Dracula," with a live orchestra playing the reconstructed original score. What a spectacle! We tend to slight the moviegoing pleasure available to pre-talkie audiences: no voices, not much camera movement, primitive film stock, florid acting. But this "Nosferatu," shown as it would have been in almost any first-run house of its time (1922), was a sensory juggernaut: a hall filled with eerie music; plenty of

movement from the images captured by the camera, notably the shadows cast by Max Schreck as the stalking vampire with fingernails like bayonets; sumptuously tinted film, and a breathtaking trick — a scene presented in negative form, with all the values reversed. The acting was florid, but it hardly detracted from Murnau's "Symphony of Effects."

As it happened, according to Jim Shepard in this brilliant fictional version of the director's life, Murnau was well aware that acting was the movie's weak link. Failing to get Conrad Veidt, the hollow-cheeked somnambulist from "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," for his leading man, Murnau had settled for a popular but wooden substitute, Vampire Schreck, was a newcomer, but Murnau correctly intuited that his grotesque appearance would outweigh any

weakness in his performance. "Nosferatu" the novel is episodic and selective: Shepard makes little or no mention of Murnau's pre-"Nosferatu" films in Germany and leaves out his great American sentimental melodrama "Sunrise." But I note these omissions only for the record: They do not detract from the sense of a life fully explored. For the most part, the story is chronological, the main exception being the next-to-last section, when the author revisits a wrenching episode from Murnau's past: the death of his beloved, Hans Ehrenbaum-Degele, in World War I.

The two had met at college in Berlin, when Murnau was still known as Friedrich Wilhelm Plumpe. A stolid, unemotional boy, he grew up in a Westphalian town "so quiet that when Wilhelm looked out a window and finally did see a passerby, it was as if a tapestry had moved," and he was charmed by Hans's urbane manners and liberal parents: the mother was a Gentile opera singer, the father a Jewish banker. But there was more to Hans: an almost preternatural kindness. From the start of their affair, a boy named Spiess devoted himself to prying Wilhelm away from Hans.

The two friends leave college: Hans writes poetry, and Murnau joins the troupe of the innovative producer Max Reinhardt, where he contributes to a stage-shaking invention, an electronic console for orchestrating changes in lighting.

One day, while Spiess, Hans and Murnau are together, Hans realizes that Spiess and Murnau have slept with each other. "If Murnau could have forgiven himself for everything else," Shepard writes, "he could not have forgiven his responsibility for that moment." When Hans is killed in battle, Murnau strings together a chain of causation that begins with his own unfaithfulness and hooks up with Hans's impetuous decision to volunteer for combat.

Whatever its effects on Murnau's emotional life, though, Hans's death seems to have done no artistic dam-

age. Having survived his own stint as a wartime flyer, Murnau returns to Berlin and gets caught up in cinema, taking up directing by default. Though making "Nosferatu" causes Murnau to reflect upon "an essentially trivial quality at the heart of film's fascination — a nervous, aggressive vulgarity," the movie is a critical and popular success. His next film, "The Last Laugh," stars Emil Jannings as an aging hotel doorman whose demotion to bathroom attendant deprives him of his pride: the ornate livery he got to wear. The pains he takes with the film, including putting to use cinematographer Karl Freund's invention of a camera whose movements can be steered by a built-in electronic gyroscope, pay off: "The Last Laugh" is an international hit, and Murnau moves to Hollywood.

A misfit in the studio system, he makes a few films and then strikes out for Polynesia, where, with backing from a new company and in partnership with the famous documentary filmmaker Robert Flaherty ("Nanook of the North"), he starts work on "Tabu," a poetic love story. The funding dries up, Flaherty leaves after a tiff, but Murnau draws on his savings and stays to finish up, smitten by the tropics and not least the beautiful boys who hang around the set. Still, he writes his mother that he is "never at home," anywhere.

The novel's penultimate section, a flashback that comes just before a brief narrative of his death in a 1931 car accident, shows him trying his damndest to bridge that distance in a fervent letter to Hans. Beggaring almost every stereotype about artists, homosexuals and Germans, Murnau is one of the most arresting characters in recent fiction, and Jim Shepard persuades us both that we know far more about him than any of his colleagues or lovers do, even Hans, and that there is still more about him to know.

Dennis Drabelle, a Washington author and editor, wrote this for The Washington Post.

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4	HOMEPORT	by Nora Roberts	4	2	
5	COLD MOUNTAIN	by Charles Frazier	5	40	
6	MEMOIRS OF A GISHIA	by Arima Gekka	6	21	
7	BLOOD WORK	by Michael Connelly	7	4	
8	TOXIN	by Robin Cook	8	4	
9	BLACK AND BLUE	by John Grisham	9	4	
10	AN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST	by Ian McEwan	10	11	
11	SUDDEN MISCHIEF	by Robert B. Parker	11	2	
12	THE MARK OF THE ASSASSIN	by Daniel Silva	12	2	
13	GUILTY PLEASURES	by Lawrence Sanders	13	5	
14	THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION	by Gore Vidal	14	2	
15	MIRACLE CURE	by Michael Palmer	15	4	
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1	TALKING TO HEAVEN	by James Van Praagh	1	14	
2	SPIN CYCLE	by Howard Kurtz	2	3	
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4	TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE	by Mitch Cullam	4	25	
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7	THE MAN WHO LISTENS TO HORSES	by Mary Roberts Riney	7	34	
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# Hollywood Embraces a Suddenly Ubiquitous Heather Graham

By Margy Rochlin  
New York Times Staff

LOS ANGELES — Although their rules forbid them to admit it, the people at the Motion Picture Association of America have been seeing a lot of the actress Heather Graham lately. Early last fall, members of this watchdog group saw her glide across the screen portraying the bewitched pornography star Roller Girl in "Boogie Nights" was shown to them on 14 occasions before they gave it an R rating.

already notorious for one dimly lighted eight-minute scene in which Graham and Downey engage in a sort of sexual encounter not often seen at your local cinema. The ratings board saw 14 versions of the scene before it withdrew its dreaded NC-17 label and granted an R.

The association viewed "Lost in Space," which opened last weekend, only once before stamping it PG-13. In that action thriller, which is based on the hit television show of the 1960s about a family stranded in a foreign galaxy, Graham's character remains chaste.

As the pensive eldest daughter, Judy Robinson, she spends most of the film clad in an orange wrist-to-ankle jumpsuit, perpetually rejecting the advances of the spacecraft's randy pilot (Man LeBlanc).

Whether the association has officially reached a "Her again?" point with the 28-year-old Graham remains a mystery. When Joan Graves, a veteran MPAA member, was reached by telephone at the organization's San Fernando Valley headquarters, she laughed for a long time after being posed the question.

again, in the indie hit "Swingers," about a group of cocktail-swilling hipsters in search of Ms. Right.

She herself has only recently begun to understand who deserved credit for her noted performances. "I used to think that to be good, I needed a good director to bring it out of me," said Graham, who is thoughtful and well read but, unlike many in her profession, not always trying to prove it. "For me, 'Boogie Nights' was a turning point. This time, I thought, I was in a good situation, but I did it. I know that as a person, I'm so much more confident now. Like, night and day from when I started off."

BORN in Virginia, she was brought up in a devout Roman Catholic household in the conservative Los Angeles suburb of Agoura. While the neighborhood's tract-house uniformity pleased her father, an FBI agent, now retired, and her mother, a writer of children's books, Graham felt interred in monotony.

"There were no options," she said. "Everything, everyone, was the same. You go to the mall. If someone's parents were out of town, you'd go to their house and have a party. I mean, they filmed 'Poltergeist' in Agoura for a reason."

Only 45 minutes away, the entertainment capital of the world beckoned. Before she graduated from high school, she had signed with an agent and appeared in a television movie called "Student Exchange," which starred O.J. Simpson.

"Friendly and normal" is the way she recalled him. "But I only knew him slightly." Soon after, she made her feature-film debut in "License to Drive," a hit of teenage fluff packaged around two heartthrobs du jour, Corey Haim and Corey Feldman.

"I remember thinking: 'Wow! They are such big stars,'" said Graham, whose portrayal of a social goddess was enhanced by the fact that at 5 feet 8 inches (1.72 meters), she towered over both of the actors.

With her first sizable paycheck in hand, she moved into an apartment in Los Angeles proper. These days, her family may or may not know that the movie business is conducting a spring romance with Graham, who will soon be seen with Kenneth Branagh in "Alien Love Triangle," with Steve Martin in "Boyz n the City," and in "Committed," written and directed by Lisa Krueger ("Manny and Lo").

"Some people have an easy relationship with their parents," said Graham, whose younger sister, Aimee, also an actress, had a bit part in Quentin Tarantino's "Jackie Brown." "But I don't feel like I do. Actually, I don't talk to them," she said. "I don't want to! My friends are my surrogate family." In this she is intriguingly like the affection-hungry character she played so well in "Boogie Nights."

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## The Finns Have a Word for It And the Word Over the Airwaves Is in Latin



The Finnish Broadcasting Company has a weekly news program in Latin and has recently expanded to the Web.

By Barry James  
International Herald Tribune

HELSINKI — Tuomo Pekkanen has been writing and producing a weekly news digest for the Finnish Broadcasting Company since the fall of the Berlin wall, and he has never once been lost for a verbum — even though the broadcasts go out entirely in Latin.

Outside Vatican Radio, this is said to be the only regular broadcast in classical Latin, and it attracts a loyal following from all around the world.

Pekkanen, a university professor, lives and breathes Latin, which he says is a lot easier than his own language, Finnish. Certainly, he observes, more people around the world understand and speak it than Finnish.

And to show that Latin can do anything a modern language can do, Pekkanen writes the Latin lyrics for a jazz band called Reine Rimmon Eiusque Papae Fervidissimi, or Reine Rimmon and Her Hot Papas.

The band has recorded two CDs, one based on the odes of Horace and one on the poems of Catullus. A third record is planned, based on Ovid's "Amores."

Latin has held a special place in Finland for centuries as a symbol of the nation's attachment to the West rather than to the Orthodox Russian-speaking world next door. It was the most important school subject until the middle of the 19th century, and for scholars living on a frozen boundary land it provided the means to pursue their studies in Central and Western Europe.

The University of Jyväskylä, where Pekkanen teaches, is one of the centers of Finland's strong classical tradition. Last year, it hosted the ninth International Latin Congress, proving that delegates from all over the world had no difficulty conversing in their lingua franca. Not surprisingly, Finnish television turned up to cover the congress — in Latin.

Pekkanen says the broadcasts are grammatically pure, although he has no objections to coining a neologism or combining existing words if something modern has no exact Latin translation. Examples: "cohortes reactionis rapidae" (rapid-reaction forces), missileis circumvagantia" (cruise missiles) or "documentum electronicum" for electronic text.

It helps, Pekkanen said, that much of the technical vocabulary is of Greek or Latin origin. Televisio for television would be comprehensible to an ancient Roman because tele is from Greek and visio is from Latin.

Finland's education minister, Olli-Pekka Heinonen says Latin is an important means of retaining humanistic values in a world where "many people have become too much accustomed to evaluating all things in terms of their potential for financial profit."

For the Finnish Broadcasting Company, which serves a domestic audience of only five million, Latin has been a means of attracting listeners far beyond Finland's borders. It gets letters from about 50 countries asking for program schedules and more details, a spokeswoman said. It has expanded its reach by putting

the program on the World Wide Web, [www.yle.fi](http://www.yle.fi), which is also a means of creating a community of Latin scholars and fans around the world.

The show began as a light-hearted experiment, but quickly caught on. With several thousand listeners, its popularity rivals some programs in Swedish, the country's second language.

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### CROSSWORD

#### ACROSS

- 1 Excuse
- 8 Sweetie
- 10 Muslim judge
- 14 Italian opera center
- 15 How draft dodgers didn't want to be classified
- 16 Biblical preposition
- 17 Seconds, of a sort
- 18 Husband of Ruth
- 19 Makes (out)
- 20 Start of a quip
- 22 Table necessity

#### DOWN

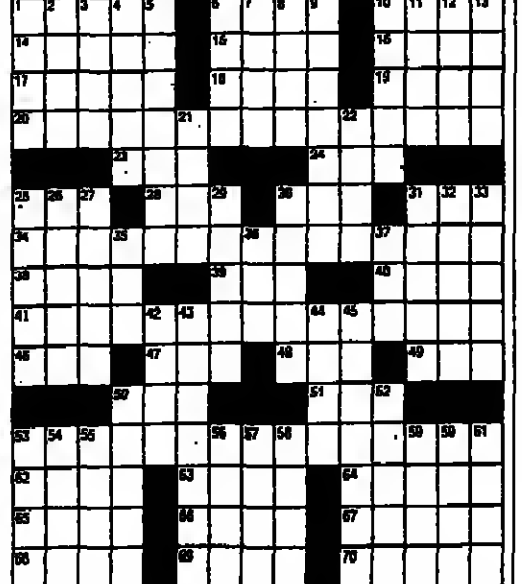
- 24 "If you — now
- 25 Doctors' org.
- 26 King predecessor
- 30 Lila imitator
- 31 Union initials
- 34 Clup, part 2
- 36 Oklahoma city
- 38 — Jims
- 40 Some nest eggs
- 41 Clup, part 3
- 46 West of "My Little Chickadee"
- 47 It often has sliding doors
- 48 Baseball stat.
- 49 Meadow

#### ACROSS

- 35 Rule out
- 36 Chemical ending
- 37 End of the quip
- 38 Show horse
- 39 A Ladd
- 44 1989 Olympics locale
- 45 Food found in a bed
- 46 Mrs. Lincoln's maiden name
- 47 It goes without saying
- 48 West of "My Little Chickadee"
- 49 It often has sliding doors
- 50 Baseball stat.
- 51 Meadow

#### DOWN

- 39 Rule out
- 40 Chemical ending
- 41 End of the quip
- 42 Show horse
- 43 A Ladd
- 44 1989 Olympics locale
- 45 Food found in a bed
- 46 Mrs. Lincoln's maiden name
- 47 It goes without saying
- 48 West of "My Little Chickadee"
- 49 It often has sliding doors
- 50 Baseball stat.
- 51 Meadow



Solution to Puzzle of April 14

EAST	MAKES	ASAP
NEAR	ELITE	MYNA
INFO	ALERT	OMAN
GREEN	DAVIS	CUP
MAT	LEN	PROBE
ASSET	CELL	SUM
EAGERLY	ATRS	
PERRY	MASON	JAR
FOX	Y	MANIA
ASH	MOSS	EXULT
BEIGE	SEC	SOI
BILLY	ROSE	BOWL
HAIG	IVANS	OPED
ALTY	SEPTA	NENE
GIST	ASIAV	ANDS

1 Bit of Latin conjugation

2 Peru's capital

3 Holy

4 Yawn-inducing

5 As a substitute

6 Western wolf

7 Like most graffiti: Abbr.

8 A good one should be square

9 Marketplaces

10 Mission

11 "My Way" writer

12 Brain passage

13 Medicinal unit

35 Outcomes

36 Proper's partner

37 Folk star

38 Redbone

39 Thanksgiving dish

40 Amortizing

41 Weapon

42 Traffic sign

43 Go in up to the ankles



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PURSUANT TO A JUDGMENT RENDERED BY THE SAINT VINCENT HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1997 AGAINST MR. GUY PIERRE PAUL SARRE, A FRENCH NATIONAL, BORN ON NOVEMBER 7, 1952 IN NICE, FRANCE, ORDERING HIM TO REPAY TO THE BANK THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF US\$ 555,922.97 (FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY TWO US DOLLARS WITH 97 CENTS), PLUS INTEREST ACCRUING AT THE RATE OF 8.5 PERCENT PER ANNUM FROM MAY 29, 1997, PLUS LEGAL EXPENSES

AND

PURSUANT TO A FAILED ATTEMPT BY MR. GUY PIERRE PAUL SARRE TO EXORT THE SUM OF US\$ 12,000,000 (TWELVE MILLION US DOLLARS) FROM NEW BANK LIMITED AND/OR FROM ITS MAJOR SHAREHOLDER, THE NANO FAMILY.

MR. GUY PIERRE PAUL SARRE TOGETHER WITH MR. STEPHANE RAVION A JOURNALIST CLAIMING TO ACT ON BEHALF OF FRENCH TV BROADCASTER CANAL PLUS, MRS. A. JULIEN, JOURNALIST, AND OTHERS ARE ACTIVELY PERPETRATING IN FRANCE AND ELSEWHERE A HIGHLY DEFAMATORY AND LIEBLOUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE BANK AND NEWS MEDIA AT TARNISHING THE GOOD NAME AND REPUTATION OF ITS SHAREHOLDERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS AND MORE PARTICULARLY OF THE NANO FAMILY.

THE SAID DEFAMATORY CAMPAIGN BEING TOTALLY DEPRIVED OF ANY CREDIBILITY AS THE ABOVE MENTIONED PERPETRATORS HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO LEGAL GROUNDS OR EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER TO SUPPORT THEIR LIEBLOUS ALLEGATIONS.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, THE NANO FAMILY IS LOGGING A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT WITH THE FRENCH PROCUREUR DE LA REPUBLIQUE AGAINST GUY PIERRE PAUL SARRE AND OTHERS ON THE GROUNDS OF CRIMINAL EXTORTION, BLACKMAIL AND LIEBLOUS.

FURTHERMORE, THE FAMILY AND THE BANK RESERVE THE RIGHT TO FILE SEPARATE CRIMINAL AND CIVIL SUITS FOR CONSPIRACY, LIEBLOUS AND DAMAGES AGAINST STEPHANE RAVION, A. JULIEN, CANAL PLUS, AND ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL AND/OR CORPORATE ENTITY AND NEWS MEDIA WHO MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE SAID DEFAMATORY CAMPAIGN WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY REPEATING AND/OR DIFFUSING IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER THE FALSE ALLEGATIONS AND LIES CIRCULATED BY MESSRS. GUY SARRE, MR. STEPHANE RAVION AND A. JULIEN.

NEW BANK LIMITED  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF  
ACTION AND ARREST**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on October 22, 1997, the United States filed a civil forfeiture action pursuant to Title 21, United States Code Sections 881 et seq. and Title 21, United States Code Section 883 (a) (5), against Account No. 747.034/278 in Banco Espanol de Credito in Spain captioned United States of America v. Property Identified as All Funds in Account 747.034/278 in Banco Espanol de Credito, Spain, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia Civil Action No. 97-02436. The funds were immobilized by Spanish authorities pending the outcome of this case. Pursuant to Rule 6(e) of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Maritime and Admiralty Claims, any person entitled to possession or claiming any interest in or to said property must file with the Clerk and attorney for the plaintiff a verified claim in the above-referenced legal action within ten (10) days after publication. Further, pursuant to Rule 6(e), you must also file an answer in the above-referenced proceeding within twenty (20) days of filing your claim. Failure to file your claim or answer in the times allotted may result in a default judgment against you and forfeiture of property to the United States. Additional procedures and regulations regarding this forfeiture action are found at Title 19, United States Code, Sections 1602-1619, and Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Sections 1316.71-1316.81. Claims and answers should contain the above-referenced civil action number and be addressed to and served on both of the following: The Honorable Nancy Meyer-Whittington, Clerk of Court, United States District Court, District of Columbia, 333 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. and Deborah A. Bruley, Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section, United States Department of Justice, Suite 10100, 1400 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on October 22, 1997, the United States filed a civil forfeiture action pursuant to Title 21, United States Code Sections 881 et seq. and Title 21, United States Code Section 883 (a) (5), against Account No. 747.034/278 in Banco Espanol de Credito in Spain captioned United States of America v. Property Identified as All Funds in Account 747.034/278 in Banco Espanol de Credito, Spain, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia Civil Action No. 97-02436. The funds were immobilized by Spanish authorities pending the outcome of this case. Pursuant to Rule 6(e) of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Maritime and Admiralty Claims, any person entitled to possession or claiming any interest in or to said property must file with the Clerk and attorney for the plaintiff a verified claim in the above-referenced legal action within ten (10) days after publication. Further, pursuant to Rule 6(e), you must also file an answer in the above-referenced proceeding within twenty (20) days of filing your claim. Failure to file your claim or answer in the times allotted may result in a default judgment against you and forfeiture of property to the United States. Additional procedures and regulations regarding this forfeiture action are found at Title 19, United States Code, Sections 1602-1619, and Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Sections 1316.71-1316.81. Claims and answers should contain the above-referenced civil action number and be addressed to and served on both of the following: The Honorable Nancy Meyer-Whittington, Clerk of Court, United States District Court, District of Columbia, 333 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. and Deborah A. Bruley, Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section, United States Department of Justice, Suite 10100, 1400 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005

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### LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF SEIZURE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by virtue of Warrant of Arrest in Rem, issued by the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, in an action entitled United States of America v. Chevy Chase FSB Account No. 36-325180-4 and Miscellaneous Computer Equipment, L. Todd Frowald, Special Agent for the U.S. Secret Service, arrested on February 25, 1997, and property described under Civil Docket No. DE-98-630 and filed with the Clerk of the Court for the District of Maryland for violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, 1956 and 1957, and which action requested that the said machine be seized for condemnation and forfeiture and requests such costs and disbursements as decreed by the Court. Any person who is entitled to possession, or claiming an interest in or to said property, pursuant to Supplemental Rule 6(e) of the Certain Admiralty and Maritime Rules, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and within 10 days after publication must file a claim with the Clerk of the Court, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland and make service upon the attorney for the plaintiff, and must serve their answers within 30 days after the filing of their claim. All interested persons should file claims and answers within the time so fixed, or be defaulted and said property be condemned and forfeited to the use of the United States of America. DAVID L. S.M.F. Assistant United States Attorney, 4th floor, U.S. Courthouse, 6500 Cherrywood Lane, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, attorney for plaintiff

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**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**  
start on Page 4

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## Customers Fret Over Bank Deal

By Beth Berselli  
and Stephanie Stoughton  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — NationsBank Corp. and BankAmerica Corp. executives have lauded the added customer convenience that could come from the banks' merger, but customers fear that such deals could result in more fees and bureaucracy and less service.

"These huge corporations, they've lost sight of certain things," such as providing customer service, said Tom Wildenberg, a writer from Silver Spring, Maryland, who stopped by a NationsBank branch after the merger was announced Monday. "They no longer have to fight for customers, and you're left with no choices and higher fees."

Analysts said some recent mergers had shown that bigger was not necessarily better when it came to the accounts of individual customers. While creating a coast-to-coast banking giant should result in added convenience for some customers — easier access to automated teller machines, for instance — for others it could mean higher fees.

Ed Mierzwinski of the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, which conducts annual surveys on bank fees, said, "NationsBank has a history of coming into a market, taking over and imposing their own fee structure, which generally means higher fees, more fees and higher balances required to avoid fees."

Arnold Danielson, a banking consultant in Rockville, Maryland, said bigger banks did tend to charge higher fees but also paid higher interest rates on deposits and offered lower-cost loans. He said NationsBank customers should prepare for different fees to be charged, although not necessarily higher fees.

### ■ Tokyo to Banks: Get Ready

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto urged Japanese banks Tuesday to speed write-offs of bad debt to face the intense global competition resulting from U.S. bank mergers, Agence France-Presse reported from Tokyo.

Meanwhile, banking stocks surged in Europe on speculation that the trend toward consolidation would soon reach the Continent. Bloomberg News reported from London.



Alejandro Elstain giving investment analysts a horseback tour of a farm belonging to his company, Cresud, Argentina's largest landowner.

## A Bet on Argentina's Future as the World's Breadbasket

Driven by a Vision of an Agribusiness Powerhouse, Two Brothers Hope to Cash In on Globalization

By Clifford Krauss  
New York Times Service

Buenos Aires — Moments after taking off from an airport, Alejandro Elstain peered out at the patchwork of farms spreading over the Argentine horizon.

"At the beginning of the century, the land is what Argentina was known for," Mr. Elstain told a group of investment fund analysts looking over farms managed by him. "And in the future, Argentina will once again be known for its agriculture. We are just beginning."

When Mr. Elstain speaks of "we," he is referring not just to Argentina but also to himself and his older brother, Eduardo, whose fortunes are increasingly intertwined with the fortunes of their nation.

With a vision of Argentina awakening from six decades of economic slumber to become a dominant agribusiness

power in the next 15 years, the two brothers are quietly building Latin America's newest real-estate empire before either has reached the age of 40.

Though their gamble that Argentina will become the next big breadbasket in

### INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

an increasingly integrated global economy is only beginning to pay off, they have already emerged from obscurity.

Since Eduardo talked his way into George Soros' office in New York eight years ago and came away with a \$10 million check, they have become darlings of Wall Street's emerging-market gurus and Argentina's free-enterprise revolutionaries intent on smashing the nation's quiet tradition of inefficient and underfunded family farms and ranches.

The history of Latin America is full of wealthy *hacendados* and *rancheros*, powerful figures who pulled the strings

from behind the scenes; the Elstains are not like that. They are outsiders, third-generation Jews from Eastern and Central Europe in a thoroughly Roman Catholic country, their vision nourished by a mystical Orthodox faith.

With an audacity that has stunned many in the Argentine business community, the Elstains doubled their rural land holdings to 1.1 million acres (440,000 hectares) in the past year — a vault that suddenly made Cresud, their farm company, into Argentina's largest landowner and biggest producer of beef and grain.

Meanwhile, their real-estate company, IRSA, headed by Eduardo Elstain, is remaking the skyline of Buenos Aires and pushing the city's development south and east.

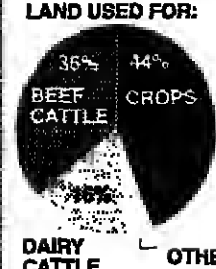
"There is a tremendous amount of capital going into the development world," Eduardo said. "That pool of money is translated into increases in

salaries. People who have a jump in salary first begin to eat a little better. That creates a demand for food, and that's where Argentina will grow."

Cresud is bringing about big changes in Argentine ranching and agriculture with biotechnology, extensive irrigation of marginal land and new particular innovation that horrifies most gauchos and Argentine beef-eaters who shun fatty meat. Cresud recently entered into a joint venture with the Texas-based Cargill Feeders to begin fattening 100,000 head of cattle a year with corn rather than traditional Argentine grass to increase yields and produce cuts of beef that are marbled with more fat in appeal to American and Asian tastes.

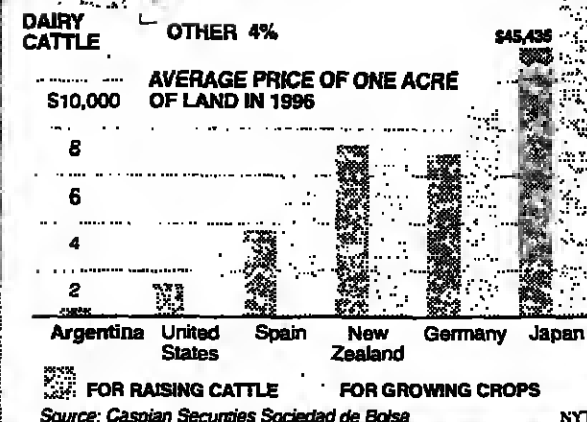
Believing that the Argentine middle and upper classes can only expand and grow richer, the Elstains' real-estate arm is buying up shopping centers, office

### SHARE OF CRESUD LAND USED FOR:



### Land Lords

The two brothers who own Cresud, an Argentine farm company, use most of their land for raising crops and cattle for export. Their business has been successful in part because the cost of land is much lower in Argentina than in other parts of the world.



Source: Caspian Securities Sociedad de Bolsa

## Wall Street Cheers New Price Data

Dow Vaults Over 9,100  
As Inflation Stays Tame

WASHINGTON — Inflation disappeared from the U.S. economy for the second time in three months in March, with a continued steep drop in energy costs offsetting scattered price increases in other areas. The data spurred strong gains in both the stock and bond markets Tuesday.

The consumer price index was unchanged last month after inching just 0.1 percent higher in February and holding steady in January, the Labor Department said. This means that inflation, which sank to an 11-year low of 1.7 percent in 1997, ran at a barely detectable 0.2 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 1998.

Meanwhile, retail sales unexpectedly declined 0.1 percent in March, pulled down by drops in the sale of autos, building materials and furniture, the Commerce Department said.

"Businesses can't raise prices — and in some cases they're cutting them," said Mark Vitner, an economist at First Union Corp. in Charlotte, North Carolina. That cuts into the value of retail sales even though the volume of goods going out the door is rising by about 3 percent, he said.

The reports were a winning combination for bonds as well as stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average surged 97.90 points to a record 9,110.20, while the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond closed up 12 3/32 in price at 103 4/32, pushing down its yield to 5.90 percent from 5.93 percent.

The consumer price index, the government's key barometer of consumer costs, was held in check last month by the fourth straight drop in energy prices, Labor Department figures showed.

The 1.4 percent rise in the index in the past 12 months is the second-smallest increase in 33 years, bested only by a decline in prices in 1986 after oil prices collapsed.

The March drop of retail sales by 0.1 percent followed a gain of 0.7 percent in February, Commerce Department figures showed.

See LAND, Page 17

See STOCKS, Page 17

## Crucial Months Ahead for Malaysia

Economists Say Actions Now May Decide How It Fares in Asian Crisis

By Thomas Fuller  
International Herald Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR — Thanks to neat checklists prepared by the International Monetary Fund, investors in recent months have judged the health of East Asia's most troubled economies like a stock boy with a clipboard, ticking off the IMF's point-by-point reforms as they happen.

This hasn't been so with Malaysia, however, which has suffered currency slides and stock-market plunges similar to those of its neighbors but has not needed IMF assistance.

"No stick, no carrot and no guidelines against which we can measure our performance," said Dominique Armstrong, head of research at Pessaka Jardine Fleming Sdn.

Malaysia has avoided bringing in the IMF, analysts say, because its banking system was better supervised and, more important, the country did not borrow as much from abroad, compared with its neighbors. While crippling levels of foreign debt in countries such as Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand forced problems in those countries out into the open, Malaysia has avoided high-profile corporate bankruptcies or major bank failures since the regional economic crisis started last year.

But the country nonetheless shares almost all of its neighbors' problems, including an overheated property sec-

tor, increasing levels of bad loans and rising inflation rates. Banks will need about \$5 billion over the next two years to cover loan defaults, which will reach 20 percent of total loans, according to an estimate by Neil Saker of SocGen Crosby Securities Pte. Ltd.

Economists view the government's management over the next few months as critical — particularly whether it bails out companies or allows them to fold.

Malaysia's central bank has tried to head off the problem of bad loans by ousting the country's smaller banks and finance companies to merge with larger ones. It is calculating that a consolidated financial-services industry will be easier to supervise and that the newly merged companies will be more resilient in the face of a bad-loan crunch.

Under government pressure, the country's 39 finance companies recently announced mergers that would reduce their number to eight. The details are not known yet, and analysts said the way the deals were structured would show whether or not some of them were bailouts.

Publicly, the Malaysian government has been emphatic about its policy on aid: "We are not here to protect or bail out," Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim said in December, a theme he has repeated several times since.

But in practice, several recent deals, including the takeover of Sime Bank

Bhd., have been interpreted by analysts and the markets as bailouts.

After Sime Bank announced several weeks ago that it lost 1.8 billion ringgit (\$514 million) last year and needed 1.2 billion ringgit in fresh capital, the government encouraged one of the country's largest financial groups, Rashid Hussain Bhd., to buy Sime and merge it with its own, healthier bank.

If the IMF had come in, it would have made sure that people who were responsible for the crisis would pay the price, said Mohamed Ariff, executive director of the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research.

"They would have made sure there was some blood on the floor," he said. "But now, it looks as though it's not happening."

One of the areas the IMF might have addressed is the close relationship between the government and certain companies.

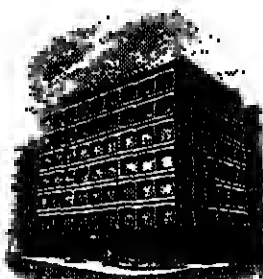
"Malaysia is a very personalized economy, very hands-on by the leading politicians," Mr. Armstrong said. "You've got a number of individuals with very serious debt problems operating businesses that should probably no longer be there."

As for the merger program, many analysts say it will not be enough to keep the Malaysian banking system healthy and that Malaysia will need foreign funds — not from the IMF, because the banks' creditors are domestic, but from foreign companies.

## CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

April 14									
Cross Rates									
	\$	£	DM	FF	Yen	Sw	Sc	DK	Nor
Australia	2.02	1.64	1.82	0.28	1.71	1.01	1.33	1.33	1.33
Canada	0.71	0.57	0.63	0.10	0.60	0.40	0.53	0.53	0.53
France	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Germany	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Italy	1.93	1.54	1.17	1.17	1.93	1.17	1.54	1.54	1.54
Japan	1.00	0.007	0.008	0.001	1.00	0.007	0.008	0.001	0.001
UK	0.69	1.00	0.72	0.12	0.69	0.42	0.56	0.56	0.56
Spain	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Sweden	1.36	1.08	0.79	0.13	1.36	0.85	1.08	1.08	1.08
Switzerland	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
US Dollar	1.00	0.71	0.78	0.13	1.00	0.60	0.71	0.71	0.71
Other Dollar Values									
Canada	0.71	0.57	0.63	0.10	0.60	0.40	0.53	0.53	0.53
France	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Germany	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Italy	1.93	1.54	1.17	1.17	1.93	1.17	1.54	1.54	1.54
Japan	1.00	0.007	0.008	0.001	1.00	0.007	0.008	0.001	0.001
UK	0.69	1.00	0.72	0.12	0.69	0.42	0.56	0.56	0.56
Spain	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Sweden	1.36	1.08	0.79	0.13	1.36	0.85	1.08	1.08	1.08
Switzerland	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
US Dollar	1.00	0.71	0.78	0.13	1.00	0.60	0.71	0.71	0.71
Forward Rates									
Canada	0.71	0.57	0.63	0.10	0.60	0.40	0.53	0.53	0.53
France	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Germany	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Italy	1.93	1.54	1.17	1.17	1.93	1.17	1.54	1.54	1.54
Japan	1.00	0.007	0.008	0.001	1.00	0.007	0.008	0.001	0.001
UK	0.69	1.00	0.72	0.12	0.69	0.42	0.56	0.56	0.56
Spain	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
Sweden	1.36	1.08	0.79	0.13	1.36	0.85	1.08	1.08	1.08
Switzerland	1.66	1.33	1.00	1.00	1.66	1.00	1.33	1.33	1.33
US Dollar	1.00	0.71	0.78	0.13	1.00	0.60	0.71	0.71	0.71

Global Private Banking  
**AT REPUBLIC, MANAGING  
YOUR ASSETS IS A DIALOGUE,  
NOT A MONOLOGUE.**



Headquarters of Republic  
National Bank of New York  
(Sutton) S.A. in Geneva.

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To our way of thinking, it is security as well as return that we must ensure each day. And in the process, to provide a unique quality of service, understanding and discretion.

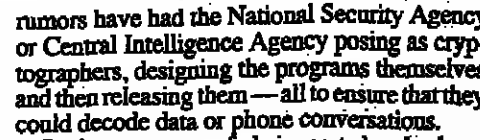
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## Students Crack Cell-Phone Security Code



Such rumors are fed, in part, by the hazy origins of the GSM system. Cryptographic specialists said the underlying mathematical formulas, or algorithms, in the encryption design were thought to have originated in either Germany or France as part of the creation of the standard in 1986 and 1987. But other than the hint Monday of an intentionally weakened system, little evidence has ever emerged to support speculation, and the researchers' suspicions were not universally endorsed.

"It's possible there are other reasons for doing this," said Stewart Baker, a Washington lawyer who formerly worked for the National Security Agency. The NSA is one of the agencies most often suspected of such schemes because a major part of its mission is to intercept telephone calls.

"Speculation is easy, and it never dies," Mr. Baker said.

(NYT, AP)

**STOCKS:** *Tame U.S. Inflation Data Spur Strong Gains for Shares and Bonds*

Johnson & Johnson fell 1 3/16 to 72 7/16 after the drugmaker said it earned 73 cents a share in the first quarter, matching expectations. Sales of its medical devices and consumer products declined.

Inel slipped ¼ to 76 in the wake of its rally of 3.4 percent on Monday. The world's largest semiconductor maker reported after the market closed that first-quarter earnings came to 72 cents a share on a fully diluted basis, in line with estimates and down from \$1.10 a year earlier. It said first-quarter revenue was about \$6 billion, compared with

## Harvard Professor Decides to Stay After All

"It's an opportunity to hit bonds; there is no inflation," says Alan Koepplin, a funds manager at Cowen Asset Management.

Bonds failed to score larger gains because of concern that Japan, one of the biggest holders of Treasury debt, might sell some of its holdings, traders said.

The Federal Reserve Board sold about \$12 billion in Treasury bills for an undisclosed customer Monday. Traders speculate that the seller was the Bank of Japan, which last week sold dollars to try to lift the yen.

(Bloomberg)

## INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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Due to technical problems

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**INFORMATION**

Read  
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every Saturday in the M.T.

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## Credit Mutuel To Buy State Stake in CIC

PARIS — Credit Mutuel will buy the government's 67 percent stake in Compagnie Financiere de CIC, Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn said Tuesday, ending a monthslong contest and paving the way for further consolidation in French banking.

## Investor's Europe

**Frankfurt**  
**DAX**

3650 4000 4350 4700 5050

N D J F M A

1997 1998

**London**  
**FTSE 100 index**

4700 5000 5300 5600 5900

N D J F M A

1997 1998

**Paris**  
**CAC 40**

2700 3000 3300 3600 3900

N D J F M A

1997 1998

Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	1,174.84	1,169.87	+0.57
Brussels	BEL-20	3,077.54	3,051.94	+0.86
Frankfurt	DAX	5,574.78	5,517.22	+1.08
Copenhagen	Stock Market	776.92	772.25	+0.17
Helsinki	HEX General	4,538.94	4,540.80	+2.16
Oslo	OBX	766.47	765.64	+0.08
London	FTSE 100	5,104.10	8,105.50	-0.02
Madrid	Stock Exchange	517.45	916.25	+0.13
Milan	MIBTEL	25542	24436	+5.70
Paris	CAC 40	3,867.56	3,894.46	-0.69
Stockholm	SX 16	4,131.16	4,096.26	+1.60
Vietnam	ATX	1,567.26	1,505.60	+0.10
Zurich	SPI	4,761.78	4,746.20	+0.33

**Sources:** Telekurs  
International Herald Tribune

from Societe Generale SA, France's biggest publicly traded bank, and ABN-AMRO Holdings NV of the Netherlands, although Societe Generale's shares surged 2.6 percent to close at 1,305 francs on speculation that it would have the winning bid.

The disappearance of foreign-exchange risk among the 11 nations joining the single currency is expected to stiffen competition, as banks will be better able to sell their products across borders. A spate of mergers in the United States has added to the consolidation pressure among banks seeking to compete internationally.

## In Satellite Firm

Adidas AG, a German sportswear maker, plans to delay its U.S. stock-exchange listing until the first or second quarter of 1999 to focus on its takeover of Salomon S.A., a French ski-equipment concern.

million Deutsche marks (\$915 million), amid demand for its 1/3 business-management software, which accommodates accounting changes for the year 2000 and the switch to the European single currency.

**Telecom Italia SpA and RAI SpA plan to form a digital pay-television service in Italy to rival Canal Plus SA of France, Europe's biggest pay-TV operator. Canal Plus's**

Britain's post office is considering making a bid for the national letters when Camelot Group's auction license

Greece will sell its first 15-year fixed-coupon bonds May 18

National Bank of Iceland's top three managers resigned

tips. The board of the National Bank, the country's largest commercial bank, appointed Halldor Kristjanssoo, a senior official at the Ministry of Commerce, to replace the trio as

head of the bank. Bloomberg, Reuters

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100		Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index		199.86	+ 1.69	+ 0.85	+ 16.12

<b>Regional indexes</b>				
<i>Asia/Pacific</i>	96.62	- 0.10	- 0.10	+ 0.57
<i>Europe</i>	239.91	+ 3.78	+ 1.60	+ 24.28
<i>N. America</i>	243.88	+ 0.55	+ 0.23	+ 12.91

<i>S. America</i>	156.26	+ 0.97	+ 0.62	+ 2.35
<b>Industrial indexes</b>				
<i>Capital goods</i>	242.46	+ 1.86	+ 0.77	+ 17.37
<i>Consumer goods</i>	232.28	- 0.99	- 0.17	+ 10.75

Energy	210.57	- 0.35	- 0.17	+ 8.01
Finance	152.42	+ 3.32	+ 2.23	+ 23.96
Miscellaneous	172.57	+ 2.28	+ 1.34	+ 15.14
Raw Materials	202.85	+ 2.33	+ 1.16	+ 21.29

	1990	1991	1992	1993
Service	205.64	+ 2.46	+ 1.21	+ 17.97
Utilities	187.76	+ 1.07	+ 0.57	+ 12.52

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar value of 500 international stocks available, chosen from 26 countries. For more information, call 1-800-451-7243.

High Low Close Prev.

Yoshi Tr	1309	1273	1287	1301	Methodex	1220	1205	1285	12
sul	837	826	830	830	Moore	22.80	22.24	22.60	22.90
sul Fudzen	1310	1296	1305	1308	Newbridge Net	37.71	36.90	37.40	37.41
sul Trust	319	304	309	313	Noranda Inc	27.40	26.40	27.15	26.41
ralia Mfg	3760	3760	3760	3710	Niherm Telecom	88.40	85.90	88	86
C	1430	1407	1424	1403	Nova	16.41	16.20	16.45	16.20
on	1180	1180	1181	1174	Onex	35	34.60	35	35

to Sec	429	420	426	425	Pandora Petal	22.65	22.20	22.55	22.35
to Sec	11990	11790	11820	12000	Petra Colar	25.35	25.15	25.4	25.35
to Express	814	808	810	823	Piccola Donna	19.80	19.40	19.75	19.90
to Oil	458	451	458	457	Poco Petal	16.35	16.10	16.4	16.15
to Steel	223	218	220	222	Polish Sank	126.80	125.4	126.60	126.4
to Motor	507	499	500	493	Renaissance	27.95	27.40	27.80	27.80

128	126	124	Rio Algom	28 1/4	27 1/4	28	27 1/4
1635	1587	1634	1580	Rogers Canal B	16 1/4	15 1/4	15 3/4
1120 1/2	1100 1/2	1110 1/2	1130 1/2	Sensorgate Co	53 1/4	53 1/2	53 3/4
5910 1/2	5800 1/2	5850 1/2	5900 1/2	Sumi Cola A	25 1/4	24 1/2	25 1/2
650	633	649	654	Swell Corp	52	51 1/4	52 1/2
290	283	288	287	Tollman Enty	41 1/4	40 3/4	41 1/2
14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2	13 1/2	Trotter B	20 3/4	20 1/4	20 1/2

13660	13660	13660	13570	Teleglobe	64.80	64.05	64.60	64.05
463	447	458	447	Telus	42.45	42.05	42.40	42.35
3480	3430	3440	3450	Thomson	43.4	42.4	43.20	43.30
1206	1185	1194	1190	TorDom Bank	71.40	68.55	72	68.4
349	356	365	360	Transcan	23.4	23.40	23.65	23.65
8220	8160	8190	8170	TransCan Pipe	32.4	31.95	32.35	32

Ray	4780	4700	4780	4700	Trimaric Pini	5145	51	514	50.80
East Chem	770	750	770	771	Trizac Hahn	34.40	33.60	33.70	34.10
East House	1072	1030	1045	1075	TVX Gold	5.70	5.55	5.55	5.60
East-Eleven	8990	8840	8930	8880	Westcoast Eny	34.70	34.35	34.40	34.95
En	974	953	962	980	Weston	14644	14637	14644	14655
Enku El Pwr	1910	1891	1910	1890					
Enu	475	472	473	473					

...au	2683	2687	2690	2693
-eisu Ch	2730	2680	2730	2680
eido	1647	1626	1640	1617
uoka Bk	1429	1399	1406	1410
bank	6310	6080	6300	6190
	11,500	11,320	11,360	11,330
yotomo	840	820	832	826

Boehringer Bk	1361	1331	1331	1350	Boehringer-Uddech	930	917	921	925
Cham	375	366	373	371	Credittrust Pfl	1184	1160	1181	1160
Chemie Elec	1669	1653	1667	1663	EA-Generali	4140	4045	4120	4045
Chemol	228	224	227	225	EVN	1944	1917.30	1940	1935
Chem Trust	772	749	755	740	Flughafen Wien	625	600	604	591
Chem Pharma	2875	2845	2870	2880	OMV	1583.50	1553.50	1556.50	1573
Chemie	2070	2030	2090	2060					

East Coast	3730	3670	3680	2760	East Coast	1300	1323	1357	1337
East Coast	10830	10660	10670	10860	VA Stahl	560	527	529	554.90
East Coast	1922	1920	1938	1951	VA Tech	2009	1964	1970	2000
East Coast	766	736	757	751	Wienerberg Sou	2656	2617	2635	2617
East Coast	1480	1460	1477	1460					
East Coast	2590	2530	2545	2620					
East Coast	4940	4870	4940	4930					

Po Gas	290	286	288	288
Pu Corp.	526	514	520	516
en	773	760	768	765
pan Print	1418	1580	1594	1614
ry Ind	710	701	707	713
nba	590	568	586	571

<b>Wellington</b>	NZSE-40 index:	2314.42
	Previous:	2305.52
Air NZeal B	2.51	2.50    2.50    2.51

1540	1530	1531	1538	Streny Inw	1.02	1.01	1.03	1.02
874	790	807	810	Center Hott ord	2.50	2.49	2.57	2.40
3520	3470	3500	3510	Fleisch Ch Bldg	3.75	3.68	3.70	3.68
3090	3080	3090	3090	Fleisch Ch Eny	6.32	6.25	6.32	6.26
7120	7060	7090	7090	Fleisch Ch Forst	1.30	1.28	1.28	1.32
				Fleisch Ch Paper	2.65	2.57	2.63	2.57

Lion Nathan	4.85	4.73	4.85	4.71
Telecom NZ	8.90	8.83	8.85	8.91
Wilson Horton	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50

**TSE Industrials: 7752.67**  
**Previous: 7655.42**

Libi Cons.	23 1/2	22.95	23	22.60			
Enrgy	35.15	34%	35.05	35.05			
Alum	45.85	44%	45.60	44.15			
Person Expt	18 1/4	18	18.20	18.10			
Montreal	85 1/4	83 1/2	85.70	82.70			

**Zurich**

SP1 Index: 4761.78  
Previous: 4744.28

ABB B	Z88	Z354	Z377	Z360
Adm. D	433	440	439	430

Avias Sash	43%	40.55	42.80	40%	Adisco B	811	590	597	810
Black Gold E	32.10	31.55	31.40	32%	Alusuisse R	1908	1675	1678	1671
Telecom	57.65	55%	57.45	56.20	Ares-Serono B	2150	2090	2090	2085
chem Pharm	55.90	55.60	55.70	55.60	Axel R	920	910	920	911
Hander B	34%	34	34	32	Bayer Hdg B	4070	3980	4010	3990
	35.15	34.55	34.65	35.05	Batelle Hdg R	3289	3252	3280	3236

secn	43.60	43%	43%	43.70	BK Vision	1960	1925	1935	1940
MC	56.90	53.85	54.70	53%	Clon Spec Chem	198.25	195	195	194
Mail Rati	93.45	92.10	92.10	92%	Clonair R	1660	1640	1652	1640
Nat Res	29%	29%	29.55	29%	Crst Sulfox Gp R	337	325	328.50	325
Occid Fat	28.20	27.00	28.10	28%	Eno-Chemie	8420	8275	8315	8445
Pacific	41.80	42.45	41.40	42.65	ESEC Hdg	3040	2900	2960	3040

minco	24.30	34	24.30	24	Holdenbank B	1699	1655	1674	1680
max	2464	24.65	24.70	24.70	Liechens L B B	830	815	823	817
max	12	11.40	12	11.4	Nestlé R	2980	2931	2940	2942
max A	324	32.40	32.45	32.4	Nowaris R	2656	2631	2651	2617
Point Cda A	4594	45.4	45.45	45.4	Oerflin Bueh R	260	250.50	251	259.50
	98.15	22.15	46.15	20.15	Parnassio H B B	2400	2300	2322	2320

Company	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420</
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Lign Res	8.10	7.93		SIGS B	2685	2798	2800	2830	
Paraffin Oil	78.60	76.80	78.60	77.40	SAH B	946	923	942	930
Energy	27.55	34	27.4	26.20	Sulfur R	1176	1150	1150	1157
Wallow	60.90	60.60	60.65	60.95	Sales Reins R	3477	3461	3457	3430
Brown Group	20.70	20.40	20.55	20.70	HAIR Group R	2080	2007	2023	2045
	38	37.05	37.05	37.45	IARS B	7774	7467	7467	7461

General Indl A	108.35	107%	108.10	107.65	Zurich Assur R	932	917	923	902
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— *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997

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Index		Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York time			
= 100	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change	
all	199.86	+ 1.69	+ 0.85	+ 16.11	
stocks	96.62	- 0.10	- 0.10	+ 0.57	
bonds	239.91	+ 3.78	+ 1.60	+ 24.21	
commodities	243.68	+ 0.55	+ 0.23	+ 12.93	
foreign exchange	156.26	+ 0.97	+ 0.62	+ 23.92	
interest rates	242.46	+ 1.86	+ 0.77	+ 17.37	
prices of new issues	232.26	- 0.39	- 0.17	+ 10.73	
goods	210.57	- 0.35	- 0.17	+ 0.89	
raw materials	152.42	+ 3.32	+ 2.19	+ 29.92	
labor	172.57	+ 2.28	+ 1.34	+ 15.14	
utilities	202.85	+ 2.33	+ 1.36	+ 21.95	

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463	1300	1566	13510	Telebabe	64.80	60.00	64.00	64.00
464	467	458	467	Telus	42.45	42.05	42.00	42.00
465	1185	1185	1185	Thomson	4.75	4.75	4.20	4.20
466	1186	1194	1194	Timor	72.40	68.55	72	72
467	1194	1194	1194	TransCanada	21.25	21.25	21.25	21.25
468	9220	9199	9170	TruCom Pipe	31.75	31.75	31.25	31.25
469	200	4780	200	Trustco	31.75	31.75	31.75	31.75
470	1072	1072	1072	TVN Group	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
471	1072	1020	1045	TVN Gold	5.00	5.55	5.55	5.55
472	884	8730	884	Westcoast Enr	24.70	24.70	24.40	24.40
473	1910	1910	1890	Wyn	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
474	2730	2730	2730					
475	146	1626	146					
476	1626	1626	1617					
477	1617	1617	1617					
478	6310	6300	6300					
479	6310	6000	6190					
480	1130	1130	1130					
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Vienna				ATX Index 1987			
Bank Austria	922	710	920	9000			
Börsen-Zeitung	922	917	921	91			
Commerzbank	922	917	921	91			
Österreichische	922	917	921	91			
Postbank	922	917	921	91			
Sparkasse	922	917	921	91			
Unionbank	922	917	921	91			
Wolfsbank	922	917	921	91			
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290	710	740	750
291	711	741	751
292	712	742	752
293	713	743	753
294	714	744	754
295	715	745	755
296	716	746	756
297	717	747	757
298	718	748	758
299	719	749	759
300	720	750	760

Wellington

NZSE-40 Index: 2294.14  
TSE: 2265.1

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Florch Ch Bldg

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Florch Ch Bldg

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Florch Ch Paper

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TSE Industrials: 7752.47

TSE: 7455.42

23%	22.5%	23	22.60
23.1%	22.6%	23.10	22.70
23.2%	22.7%	23.20	22.80
23.3%	22.8%	23.30	22.90
23.4%	22.9%	23.40	23.00
23.5%	23.0%	23.50	23.10
23.6%	23.1%	23.60	23.20
23.7%	23.2%	23.70	23.30
23.8%	23.3%	23.80	23.40
23.9%	23.4%	23.90	23.50
24%	23.5%	24	23.60

Zurich

SPJ Index: 4761.61  
TSE: 4744.61

ARB B

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ASIA/PACIFIC



Mr. Wolfensohn says bank was not slow to respond to crisis.

# World Bank Rebutts Critics of Its Role in Asia

As top finance officials from around the world gather in Washington to discuss the lessons of Asia's economic crisis at the International Monetary Fund/World Bank annual spring meetings, there is much talk of economics and less about the effect of the crisis on people in the region.

James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, stressed the social impact of the crisis with Alon Friedman of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. There has been a fair amount of criticism about the World Bank having been slow off the mark in the Asian crisis.

A. I don't think it is correct to say we were slow. We started to work on things that are less important for headline writers, things like the social impact of the crisis, like em-

## Q & A / James Wolfensohn

ployment, poverty and food. But we equally went in on the restructuring of banking systems.

We had 100 people in our financial-services department when the crisis hit, and I secured extra funding, some \$25 million worth, and we wrote to central banks seeing if they could spare people to work for us for two to three years. So far, we have hired 14 new people. We are building up that group so we can work on bank restructuring, supervision, capital markets and related issues.

Q. Another criticism has been that the IMF and World Bank have

not coordinated enough, that the IMF, which is supposed to concentrate on macroeconomic policies, instead learned as it went along that it faced structural problems of bank supervision and reforms that are really in your mandate. The word in Washington is that the IMF and the World Bank have not been on the best of terms.

A. I think it is the proper duty of the Fund to deal with macroeconomic problems and putting out fires, and we should work on structural measures. There were some initial difficulties between our organizations that were caused by pressures at the time. At the beginning there were

some interperate remarks made, but that was long ago.

Q. But in the case of Indonesia, the biggest problems have turned out to be private-sector corporate debt and banking reforms, more World Bank than IMF material.

A. Indonesia is a Fund rescue package, but our work has gone into it. Our job is less visible, less front-line. We are not a crisis institution; we work on what happens over the next two to three years. That's what we do. We work on issues, as I said, that don't get headlines, like the social impact of the crisis.

Q. Tell me about your social impact work in the most hard-hit crisis countries of Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea.

A. In these countries we are working on issues such as unemployment, health care, social safety nets, the plight of migrant workers. These are crucial to the stability of these countries. Actually, the record on reducing poverty in Indonesia has been excellent over the past 25 years. They have reduced from 60 percent to 11 percent of the population the number of people living on a dollar a day. But we are finding quite a lot of people living on just two or three dollars a day; and the effect of the crisis, according to our projections, will be to push poverty back up from 11 percent to about 20 percent of the Indonesian population. That's a swing of 20 million people.

Q. What kind of social problems are you working on?

A. Let me give you an example. We have done a social assessment in Thailand, and we discovered many people returning from urban centers to the rural countryside.

So what happens? They lose their jobs in the city, go back to the countryside, but they still have no work and no money. So they might take things, and that creates social tension, and then you have families who keep their kids at home to protect the house, and that keeps them from getting an education in school. Or you have families who are now so desperate that they sell their kids into prostitution or they send their kids out as prostitutes.

You know, confidence appears to be returning to the financial markets, and the crisis may be over, but the resolution is far from over. You can't transform a social system in five minutes.

Q. What is the World Bank spending on these programs in the crisis countries?

A. In Korea, we have disbursed a total of \$5 billion for a range of activities, covering economic reconstruction, bank restructuring, improvements of corporate governance but also a significant portion for emergency policy programs in the social area, for providing social safety nets, for education, health and in dealing with the effects of unemployment.

In Indonesia, we have committed \$4.5 billion over the next three years, of which \$1 billion is devoted to working on improving social safety nets and \$275 million on rural income and job improvement. In Thailand, we have \$1.5 billion of funds committed, and we are using \$300 million for direct social intervention.

Q. How long will your work on the aftermaths of the crisis go on?

A. There will be three years of hard work, and the battle will only be won three years from now. It may not make headlines, but that is what it takes to implement these programs.

## IMF: Japan Comes Under Pressure to Take Additional Action to Avoid Recession

Continued from Page 1

tax system, Mr. Rubin said. "The key question is not the level of the taxes but the macroeconomic stimulus."

He added that "we are very much looking forward to seeing the details" of Japan's stimulus measures. Mr. Rubin and his Japanese counterpart will hold a meeting here Wednesday ahead of the G-7 gathering.

Asked to comment on the Bank of Japan's intervention in foreign-exchange markets last week to strengthen the yen against the dollar, Mr. Rubin said the United States "continues to believe that a strong dollar is important." But he added: "Having said that, Japan is concerned about the weakness of the yen, and that is a concern we share, and that is why we welcomed Japan's intervention last week."

The dollar came under pressure Tuesday in currency markets, with dealers citing the fear of further Bank of Japan intervention. Mr. Rubin's remarks and U.S. data showing stable prices.

Apart from Japan's woes, the other major theme sounded by Mr. Camdessus and Mr. Rubin Tuesday was the need for finance ministers from around the world to take steps to strengthen the "architecture" of the global financial system.

The search for ways to learn from the Asian crisis and from the Mexican financial crisis of 1995 are at the top of the agenda this week in the IMF and G-7 meetings and at a

special meeting of finance ministers from the G-7 and from 15 other emerging economies in Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Much of the work being done this week on the architecture question will find its way into the annual economic summit meeting of G-7 leaders in Birmingham, England, next month.

"The Asian crisis, coming on the heels of Mexico's crisis," said Mr. Camdessus, "showed the most obvious weaknesses of the present system." He listed these as its vulnerability to crisis, the speed of contagion, the centrality in each crisis of problems in banking supervision and instances of bad governance.

Mr. Camdessus said the IMF's policy-setting Interim Committee would discuss ways to improve information and financial-data flows that improved transparency, changes to the IMF's rules to allow it to press for the liberalization of capital markets and how to equip the IMF for better crisis prevention. He also said that IMF members would be asked to discuss ways of involving the private sector in crisis resolution.

The IMF chief said he expected the Interim Committee to also discuss ways to "give more teeth to IMF recommendations."

On Tuesday, Mr. Rubin said the IMF and other international financial institutions should "consider conditioning access to loans on countries' willingness to improve

their transparency."

Mr. Camdessus, asked whether he thought Indonesia would stick to the latest IMF rescue plan agreed last week after failing to honor the previous two programs, conceded that in Indonesia "there are vested interests that can conspire to delay and sabotage it, and so you must stop and start again."

But he warned that "they know pretty well the cost of not accepting and adhering to it."

Ultimately, said Mr. Rubin, "the most powerful enforcement mechanism is the market, because the availability of capital and price you pay for capital will be affected by your policies."

Mr. Rubin, while suggesting that "the IMF needs to make its analyses and lending conditions more transparent," nonetheless rejected the idea of forcing the IMF to publicly predict formal warnings of crises.

Mr. Camdessus said that achieving more transparency was "a challenge, and we must do better." But he argued that the IMF could not make public "secret information provided by a given country" even if "this can from time to time prevent us from being as transparent as we would like to be."

Mr. Rubin also argued for the IMF to create mechanisms to ensure that when a crisis hit a country, private-sector creditors and investors would "fully bear the consequences of their decisions."

Both the U.S. Treasury secretary and the IMF chief heaped praise on

President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea for sticking to tough reforms and making data on the country's financial system publicly available. Mr. Rubin said the United States was still discussing a possible loan for South Korea to supplement the IMF program.

Mr. Rubin also said that at the G-7 meeting Wednesday the United States would raise the issue of problems related to the preparation of computer systems for the year 2000, especially in terms of making sure national financial systems were well equipped to handle the matter.

Asked what impact Europe's planned single currency would have on the dollar, Mr. Rubin said, "I don't think it will adversely affect the dollar as a reserve currency or as a tool in international finance."

## Jakarta Hopes To Keep Control Of State Firms

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JAKARTA — Indonesia wants to maintain controlling interests in state-owned companies earmarked for privatization under a new reform deal with the International Monetary Fund, a cabinet minister said Tuesday.

Tanti Abeng, the minister in charge of state-owned companies, said a study of the readiness of 12 companies for privatization would be released April 24. He added that President Suharto had ordered the government not to allow its stakes in any of the companies to drop below 51 percent.

Mr. Abeng said the government would cooperate with the World Bank and the IMF on the planned privatization measures to ensure transparency.

Indonesia signed the new agreement with the IMF last week setting out a timetable for economic reform measures in return for \$43 billion of aid.

Separately, analysts said prospects were positive for talks scheduled Wednesday in New York between indebted Indonesian companies and representatives of the foreign banks that lent them \$71 billion. (AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

## T-BILLS: Traders Think Japan Was Behind Record Sale

Continued from Page 1

and sell securities on behalf of other central banks, this was the first time such a customer operation had ever been channeled through the Fed's automated trading system.

At \$12.1 billion, the sale was only \$900 million shy of the amount of bills the Treasury sold at its regular Monday afternoon auction later in the day.

"It was about 9:45 A.M. when the Fed first posted the offering," said Glen Capelo, a trader at Salomon Brothers' New York primary dealership, one of the designated government securities firms with which the New York Fed deals regularly and whose financial condition the bank constantly monitors.

"We had half an hour, to 10:15, to show our numbers" — that is, to

enter a bid for the large number of different securities being sold in roughly half-billion-dollar amounts, Mr. Capelo said.

"It was the first time we have ever seen anything like this before. We hadn't seen the magnitude, nor had they used the automated system that way."

Normally, the Fed does not make public the total amount of securities it wants to sell for a customer, though traders at the primary dealers could easily add up the list of those being offered. But some traders said making the total known may have won the Bank of Japan a better price than if the Fed had tried to sell the securities in repeated waves.

"We act as an agent, and our responsibility is to provide the best service we can for our customer," said Steve Malin, a New York Fed

spokesman. In essence, that means getting the best possible price.

The huge sale — and the potential for others to follow — could ease a looming problem for bond traders, analysts said.

Because the U.S. federal budget is now in surplus, and the Treasury is getting huge inflows of cash during this tax-paying season, it has begun to cut back on its auctions of new securities.

That has created a shortage of some of the securities that global investors use as collateral for multi-billion-dollar transactions. Analysts said putting the \$12.1 billion of bills on the market could relieve that problem.

Going forward, Mr. Capelo said, the Treasury might be able to reduce its weekly bill auctions even more than it has so far.

## LAND: Betting on Argentina

Continued from Page 13

buildings and hotels around Argentina at a dizzying pace.

It is also helping restore the capital's shabby river waterfront to a splendor not seen in 60 years. Abasto, a sprawling neighborhood known until recently for muggings and seedy tango bars, is suddenly gentrifying as the Elstzains brothers begin to build a giant high-rise middle-class housing project abutting an even larger shopping center complete with a dozen movie theaters and a children's museum.

IRSA last year swallowed up its biggest competitor and acquired assets valued at more than \$350 million, bolstering its real-estate portfolio to an estimated value of \$800 million, according to a recent report by Bear Stearns Cos.

Now, with local partners in Venezuela and Brazil, the company is taking its mall empire outside Argentina. The cover of its last annual report showed a key entering a lock in the shape of the entire South American continent.

The Elstzains say the economic upheaval in Asia is little more than a speed bump. In the long term, they contend, the sprawling pampas of Argentina will feed a growing Brazil, a Europe that must cut its immensely expensive agricultural subsidies and an Asia that will continue to move away from an agrarian production system as it industrializes.

In recent years, as the Argentine government has slashed farm export taxes, land prices have rapidly appreciated. Nonetheless, they remain considerably less expensive than comparable lands in Canada and the

United States. The company stands to gain from a further escalation of land values, local and foreign analysts say.

"The Elstzains know that Argentina can produce meat, wheat and milk cheaper than the United States," said Osvaldo Cortesi, an agricultural economist at Macroeconomia, a research organization.

"They know that as agribusiness expands in Argentina, land prices will rise." Argentina's share of world beef exports has already doubled since 1993, in large part because of a 400 percent increase in exports to Brazil. With the United States last year opening its market to Argentine beef for the first time in six decades, and with Japan expected to follow soon, international experts say the future for Argentine beef growers looks even brighter.

Since 1990, the country's agricultural exports have climbed 80 percent, to more than \$9 billion last year. Its current annual grain output of 60 million tons is expected to climb to 80 million tons in 2000, according to local and foreign analysts.

Nevertheless, the Elstzains are feeling at least a short-term chill from Asia. Foreign investors have shied away from Latin stocks in recent months, jolting Cresud, which is traded in the form of American depositary receipts on the Nasdaq market, and IRSA, which is traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

The companies' shares are well off their highs of \$24.625 and \$46 reached last year. In late trading Tuesday, Cresud was quoted at \$20.50, up 25 cents, and IRSA at \$36.0625, unchanged.

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1st QUARTER CONSOLIDATED SALES

	1998 (FRF millions)	1997/1998 (%)
France .....	598	1
Other European countries ..	807	8
The Americas .....	743	106
Other countries .....	669	-1
Total .....	2 817	19

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### DICAM WORLD WIDE INVESTMENT FUND

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable  
14, rue Albrecht, L-1118 Luxembourg  
Registre de Commerce Section B n° 21225

### NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of DICAM WORLD WIDE INVESTMENT FUND, SICAV will be held at the offices of Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A., 50, Avenue J.F. Kennedy, in Luxembourg, on 24 April 1998 at 2.00 p.m. for the purpose of considering and voting upon the following matters:

- To hear:
  - the management report of the directors;
  - the report of the auditor;
- To approve the statement of net assets and the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year ended 31 December 1997;
- To discharge the directors with respect to their performance of duties during the year ended 31 December 1997;
- To elect the directors and the auditor to serve until the next annual general meeting of shareholders.

The shareholders are advised that no quorum for the statutory general meeting is required and that decisions will be taken at the majority of the shares present or represented at the meeting.

In order to take part at this statutory meeting of 24 April 1998, the owners of bearer shares will have to deposit their shares five clear days before the meeting at the registered office of the Fund or with the following bank: Banque Générale du Luxembourg 50, Avenue J.F. Kennedy, Luxembourg.

The Board of Directors



The 1,000 most traded National Market securities  
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
The Associated Press.

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SPORTS

# Griffey's 300th Can't Save Seattle

## Bullpen Fails Again as Indians Roar Back From 3-Run Deficit to Win

The Associated Press  
Ken Griffey hit his 300th career home run, but Seattle's bullpen once again failed to protect a lead as the Mariners lost, 6-5, in Cleveland.

Griffey hit a pair of two-run homers on Monday night, and his second — in the seventh off Jose Mesa — made him the second-youngest player ever to reach 300.

The All-Star center fielder, who has hit at least 40 homers in four different seasons, is 28. Jimmie Foxx was 27 when he hit his 300th. Foxx hit 534 round-trippers during his Hall of Fame career.

Griffey's first homer, combined with a solo shot in the sixth by David Segui, gave the Mariners a 3-0 lead. But the Indians scored six runs in the sixth, taking a 6-3 lead on Brian Giles's three-run homer off Bobby Ayala.

Earlier on Monday, the Mariners fired their pitching coach, Nardi Contreras, replacing him with Stan Williams. The move came a day after Seattle's bullpen blew its second save of the weekend in Boston.

Griffey said he was pleased about his slugging but more concerned about Seattle's 3-9 start. "I just don't like losing," Griffey said. "No matter what happened, a loss is a loss."

The Mariners' bullpen is 0-2 with no saves. In 32 1/3 innings it has yielded 27 earned runs for a 7.44 earned-run average.

Rangers 10, Tigers 1 Lee Stevens hit three home runs, and Bobby Win got his 100th career victory as a Ranger as Texas beat visiting Detroit.

Stevens hit solo homers in the second and fifth before connecting on a two-run shot in the seventh for his first three-homer game. He walked in the eighth

attempting to become the 13th player ever to hit four home runs in a game.

Juan Gonzalez added a two-run homer for the Rangers, who have won four of five.

Devil Rays 13, Twins 12 Robert Smith homered in the 14th inning, and Esteban Yan closed with five perfect innings as Tampa Bay overcame a six-run deficit

to win at home against Minnesota. Smith connected off Mike Trombley for his fourth hit.

Red Sox 6, Athletics 3 In Boston, Bret Saberhagen continued his comeback, and Mo Vaughn homered, sending Oakland to its fourth straight loss.

Saberhagen (2-0) sat out all of 1996 after surgery on his right shoulder and spent most of last season in rehabilitation. He allowed two runs and two hits in six innings in chalking up the victory.

Royals 11, Blue Jays 1 Glendon Rusch got his first victory in Kansas City, and Larry Sutton, Shane Mack and Mike Sweeney each homered for the Royals.

In National League games:

Mariners 7, Pirates 2 Florida broke an 11-game losing streak, the longest in team history, behind Derek Lee's second grand slam in a week.

"It's good to hear noise in here," Gregg Zaun said of the Marlins' upheaval clubhouse after they won in Pittsburgh.

"An 11-game losing streak is probably the longest I've ever been part of."

At 1-11, the Marlins were off to the worst start ever by a defending World Series champion.

Lee's grand slam and Cliff Floyd's two-run double were the highlights of a six-run third inning by Florida that

helped Andy Larkin get his first major league victory. He gave up one run and six hits in six innings.

Rockies 8, Reds 4 Colorado won its first home game this season, rallying behind Vinny Castilla's three-run homer off the left-field foul pole in the seventh. The Rockies, who also had a four-run eighth, snapped an eight-game losing streak.

Giants 8, Cardinals 2 In San Francisco, Barry Bonds hit his first homer of the season. Eli Marrero and Willie McGee of the Cardinals hit solo homers in the ninth off Juan Tavares.

Phillies 11, Braves 8 Rico Brogna hit two homers and drove in five runs as Philadelphia rallied from a 7-1 deficit against visiting Atlanta and won for the sixth time in seven games.

The Phillies scored four unearned runs in the fifth and six unearned runs in the seventh. Brogna's three-run homer in the seventh broke a 7-1 tie.

Padres 1, Diamondbacks 0 Archi Cianfrocco homered and Andy Ashby pitched a four-hitter as the Padres improved to 11-2, the best start in franchise history. Brian Anderson threw a three-hitter for visiting Arizona.

Dodgers 3, Astros 1 In Los Angeles, Hideo Nomo scattered five hits in seven innings, and Wilton Guerrero hit a two-run single to break a 1-1 tie in the seventh.

Raul Mondesi singled off Jose Lima to start the seventh and was hit by Todd Zeile's grounder on a hit-and-run play. Mondesi wasn't called out because, according to a seldom-invoked rule, there would have been no play on the ball.

Zeile was credited with a single and both runners scored on Guerrero's single.



The Dodgers' Hideo Nomo winding up to deliver a pitch to a Houston batter in the second. Los Angeles won, 3-1.

### Is Yankee Stadium Crumbling?

New York Times Service  
NEW YORK — A 500-pound concrete-and-steel beam suspended beneath the upper deck of Yankee Stadium came loose and crashed into the empty seats below it, prompting city officials to close the stadium.

As a result, the New York Yankees had to postpone two games of a three-game series with the Anaheim Angels.

The beam, which weighed about 225 kilograms, fell 30 feet (9 meters) at about 3 P.M. on Monday with such force that it obliterated one seat along the third-base line and left a hole in the concrete below it. Because the stadium was empty, there were no injuries, but the incident prompted a full-scale inspection of the famed sports arena, which will be 75 years old Saturday.

"This could have been a terrible tragedy," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said, surveying the damage Monday.

# Hasek Lifts Sabres Over Flyers, 2-1

The Associated Press  
After missing 18 games with a concussion, Eric Lindros, the Philadelphia center, returned and threw his weight around as usual. But he could not beat Dominik Hasek, the Buffalo goaltender.

Lindros had four shots but could not score as the Sabres won, 2-1, Monday night in Buffalo.

"He came out hard," said Lindros. "He was rolling people."

### NHL Roundup

over. As the game wore on, we got a few licks on him, and we wore him down."

Lindros was a physical presence from the opening face-off, but in the final period, Buffalo took control, outshooting the Flyers, 12-3.

Hasek, meanwhile, was near the top of his game. He gave up a first-period power-play goal to John LeClair but made 30 saves overall.

The Sabres won it on goals by Curtis Brown and Michael Grosek and held on to fourth place in the Eastern Conference race for home ice in the first round of the playoffs.

"I've got to get my timing back," Lindros said. "I got to get my shot on and start doing things at a higher speed. I'm feeling real good and I think those things will come."

Bruins 3, Hurricanes 2 An-

son Carter had a goal and an assist as Boston dealt another blow to visiting Carolina's playoff hopes. While Boston remained one point behind Buffalo in the race for fourth in the East, Carolina dropped five points behind Ottawa in the chase for the eighth and final spot in the conference.

Spartans 3, Lightning 2 Chris Phillips scored a tie-breaking power-play goal with 4:03 left as Ottawa closed in on a playoff berth with a victory at Tampa Bay. With a five-point lead over Carolina for the final playoff spot in the East, the Senators need only one victory or a loss by the Hurricanes in the last three games to clinch a playoff berth.

Capitals 2, Islanders 0 Olaf Kolzig, the Washington goaltender, stopped 35 shots for his fifth shutout of the season, and Brian Bellows and Andre Nikolishin scored as the Capitals won in New York.

Kings 4, Flames 2 Glen Murray recorded his first National Hockey League hat trick with three consecutive goals, one short-handed and two on power plays, as Los Angeles beat visiting Calgary.

Mighty Ducks 2, Avalanche 2 In Anaheim, Frank Banham's third-period goal lifted the Mighty Ducks to a tie with Colorado. The Avalanche missed a chance to wrap up their third straight Pacific Division title.

## SCOREBOARD

### BASEBALL

#### MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	9	2	.818	—
Tampa Bay	7	4	.636	2
Boston	6	5	.545	3
Toronto	4	8	.333	5 1/2

CENTRAL DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	9	2	.818	—
Minnesota	6	5	.545	3
Kansas City	5	7	.417	4 1/2
Chicago	4	8	.333	5 1/2
Detroit	3	8	.273	6

WEST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	7	4	.636	—
Anaheim	6	5	.545	1
Seattle	3	9	.250	4 1/2
Oakland	2	8	.200	4 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	7	4	.636	—
Philadelphia	6	5	.545	1
Atlanta	6	5	.545	1 1/2
San Diego	6	5	.545	1 1/2
St. Louis	6	5	.545	1 1/2

CENTRAL DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	8	4	.667	—
Milwaukee	7	5	.583	1
St. Louis	6	6	.500	2
Pittsburgh	7	6	.538	1 1/2
Houston	7	7	.500	2

WEST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Diego	11	2	.846	—
San Francisco	8	5	.615	3
Los Angeles	6	6	.500	4
Colorado	5	9	.357	6 1/2
Arizona	2	11	.154	9

MONDAY LINESCORES	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	200	100	0.333	4
Boston	211	111	0.667	11
Rogers	200	100	0.333	4
Salt Lake City	200	100	0.333	4
San Francisco	200	100	0.333	4

### AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS

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Baltimore	9	2	.818	—
Tampa Bay	7	4	.636	2
Boston	6	5	.545	3
Toronto	4	8	.333	5 1/2

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St. Louis	6	6	.500	2
Pittsburgh	7	6	.538	1 1/2
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Los Angeles	6	6	.500	4
Colorado	5	9	.357	6 1/2
Arizona	2	11	.154	9

### JAPANESE LEAGUES

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
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Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
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Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
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Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
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Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
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Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—
Yokohama	7	3	.700	—

### DENNIS THE MENACE



THE MENACE AT SCHOOL TONIGHT, DAD!

JUST THE PRINCIPAL, MY TEACHER AND YOU!

THE MENACE AT SCHOOL TONIGHT, DAD!



## OBSERVER

## Just Small Actors

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — We of the media are desperate for stars. That's why the nation and President Bill Clinton can expect no relief from you know what. Boy, don't we all know what!

If we abandon the story, dear mass audience, what have we left to serve you? In all Congress there is not a single star, not one person whose name is known to any but game-show contestants bawling up for "Jeopardy."

Among the Capitol unknown, I include the House speaker, Newt Gingrich. A year or two ago he approached Clinton in star magnitude. Today, like Bernard Macfadden and Jack Lanne, he is grist for those where-are-they-now pieces in which newspapers remind us who's dead and who's not.

Washington once abounded in what the press calls "colorful characters." There was the great gushing Senator star, Everett Dirksen, "the wizard of ooze," as Time magazine called him.

The Senate also had three Kennedys, Hubert Humphrey, Gene McCarthy and, for color, Olin (Olin the Solon) Johnson and William (Wild Bill) Langer constantly chewing on cellophane-wrapped cigars. It glinted with star power.

Look at Congress now: hordes seemingly groomed, dressed and color-coordinated by the same television makeup cosmetician, and not a star on the landscape.

Washington is filled with serious people engaged in serious business, some of it alarmingly serious. Right now, while the media fret about the president's character, Senate

and president are quietly colluding in a dangerous and costly expansion of NATO, and nobody gives a hoot.

Probably more Americans know who Linda Tripp is than which three countries will extend NATO up to the borders of Russia. But for a few newspapers, the media don't dare bore us with stories like that.

TV can't risk it. (Death to the ratings.) The tabloids couldn't care less. ("Where's the sex angle?") To put it another way, it's competition that keeps us dumb, that very competition that is said to underpin our greatness.

Competition means there isn't time to introduce minor characters unless they garnish tales of the star's adventures. Competition means pursuing the biggest possible audience, which means catering to the lowest common denominator.

The mass audience doesn't readily suffer long-winded dawdling over NATO or stories about who's sabotaging the latest health-care plan. We want stars, not details. This probably explains why the networks' Washington coverage concentrates so intensely on the White House.

The presidency offers a rich variety of TV entertainment themes: the family sitcom, soap opera, eye-popping spectacle, tales of intrigue and foul play, Government, a nuts-and-bolts business, goes unreported because it is not entertainment.

So, who cares what's happening about taxes, all those corporate mergers, Social Security reform, health care, monopolies, the asphaltting of America? When the entertainment is this rich, who can be bothered with such dreariness? We'll scream later.

New York Times Service

## A Hillbilly on a Comeback With a Geezer Pass

By Mike Zwerin  
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Boh Dorrough is the only 74-year-old hillbilly singer, composer and piano player with a ponytail and a new seven-album record deal. And how many of them would you say have worked with Lenny Bruce, Miles Davis and Sugar Ray Robinson?

In more recent years, he and his huddy the bassist Bill Takas have been flying around the United States on senior citizen tariffs they call "geezer passes."

They enjoy working together as a duo and, frankly, they could not afford a drummer. This did not bother Dorrough all that much because, as that other hillbilly jazzman Chet Baker once said: "It takes a very good drummer to be better than no drummer at all."

In any case, such economy will not be necessary much longer.

His new album, the first of the seven, "Right on My Way Home," has just been released by Blue Note. "Schoolhouse Rock," his educational production dating back to the '70s, is a newly packaged 4-CD box on Rhino Records.

The kids who once loved his voice singing "My Hero Zero" over animated cartoons on Saturday morning television are now in their 30s happily paying music charges in the jazz clubs Dorrough appears in. They elbow each other with nostalgia.

A club called Birdland in the theater district on West 44th Street was packed two nights running late last month when Dorrough made one of his rare New York City appearances. (Notable names dropped in, including the filmmaker Robert Altman, the artist Al Hirschfeld and the actor Gary Goodrow.) Dorrough had worked regularly at the Village Gate and Bradleys, but they both closed.

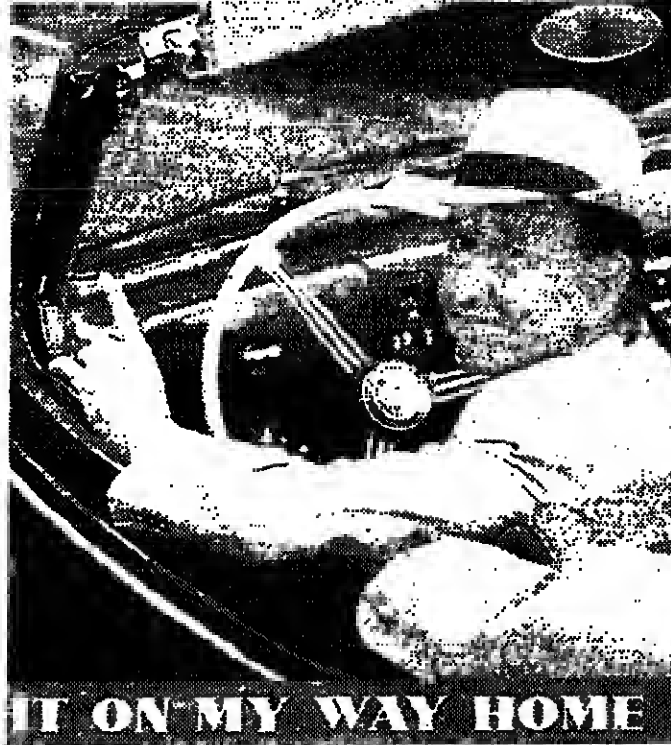
He likes to "harbor stray animals" on his farm in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains, a 90-minute drive from the city. The area reminds him of the hills, rivers and creeks near his home town of Cherry Hill, Arkansas. He had been "scoring heavily advertising bread" recording jingles like "Sing a Can of Beer," so he bought it.

With nothing urgent to go for in New York, it was perhaps a bit too easy to get into the habit of lying back with the philosophy expressed in a song he wrote with Fran Landesman: "I've Got a Small Day Tomorrow (and there's a car I can borrow)."

His voice has been compared to "Nat King Cole doing a Louis Armstrong impersonation."

Dorrough somehow manages to wear his heart on his sleeve, laugh, wink, keep his tongue in his cheek, sing and finger two-handed bebop piano at the same time. "In the old days," he says, with his old-days Arkansas Traveler twang: "I was a bebop student trying to learn 'Half Nelson' like everyone else."

He ran jam sessions with people from Detroit, including Thad and Elvin Jones, in his East 75th Street four-flight walk-up.



Boh Dorrough has finally escaped from his "evil days."

Financially, Dorrough had fallen on what he calls "evil days." He was working Henry Le Tang's Times Square tap dance studio for \$3 a class. One day, Le Tang said "I've got a five dollar gig for you."

Le Tang introduced him to the boxer Sugar Ray Robinson, who had retired and was building a song and dance act. Tap dancers are like drummers with legs and Dorrough liked playing with them. When Le Tang said "play 'Green Eyes' for Sugar Ray," he knew exactly what to do.

Afterward, wiping his brow, Robinson said: "You're going on the road with us."

Dorrough "took it as a command." They traveled with Robinson's hairdresser, valet and road manager; playing theaters in Detroit, Washington, Philadelphia and the Apollo in Harlem on the same bill with attractions like The Dimeos.

"I toured our continent on Count Basie's bus, hung out in Louis Armstrong's dressing room. I met 'Fatha' Hines in Providence."

Wearing a smile that somehow combined lechery with childlike enthusiasm, Dorrough recalled: "Oh, all those beautiful dancing girls. It was wonderful."

Robinson took his revue, billed as "The Champ," to Paris with Dorrough as musical director. They sailed over first class (doing their act en route) on the Ile de France. But they

bombed in Paris ("Larry Adler stole the show"), and when Robinson and his rennie sailed back (second class), Dorrough stayed in Paris to work at the Mays Club for the French franc equivalent of \$11.65 a night. It went a long way in Paris in the '50s. He sighed: "I was in pig heaven."

Lenny Bruce was "a jazz lover but an autocrat too" and Dorrough soon decided to stop spending "A Sick Evening With Lenny Bruce."

After hearing his vocalese adaptation of Charlie Parker's "Yardbird Suite," Miles Davis called "out of the blue" and said: "I want you to write a Christmas song for me." Dorrough took that as a command also. He wrote the anti-Yuletide lament "Blue Xmas," which Miles recorded.

One thing sure — he was taking orders from some sharp cats.

Little Brother Montgomery taught a young white singer named Elaine (Spanky) McFarland about the

**Financially, Dorrough had fallen on what he calls "evil days." He was working Henry Le Tang's Times Square tap dance studio for \$3 a class.**

blues and she started the group Spanky and Our Gang. Dorrough producing. Their "Sunday Will Never Be the Same" was a hit.

With simultaneous advertising and rock hits came a commission to set the multiplication tables to a backbeat. An agency account executive he knew came up with the concept. "My little boy can't memorize the multiplication tables," he explained. "But he sings along with the Hendrix and the Rolling Stones."

Dorrough had taken an elective called "The New Math" at Columbia University — he knew about the commutative law and he liked the Stones too and he soon realized that he knew more about rock than the account executive.

It led to the successful body of work called "Multiplication Rock" including "Little Twelve Toes" ("If man had been born with six fingers on each hand, he'd also have 12 toes, or so the theory goes").

The premise was expanded to "Schoolhouse Rock," including grammar, America (history and civics) and science — Dorrough producing. Dave Frishberg wrote a song in the American history department that began: "I'm just a bill, yes I'm only a bill, and I'm sitting up here on Capitol Hill."

A folksy grammar song by Lynn Ahrens explained: "A noun is a person, place or thing." And Dorrough sang his "real rocky" science number called "Electricity."

Breaking news: Boh Dorrough has been inducted into the Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame.

## PEOPLE

SON of John Lennon believes the U.S. government was behind the slaying of his father. "He was a countercultural revolutionary, and the government takes that kind of [stuff] really seriously historically," the 22-year-old Sean Lennon said in the latest New Yorker. Mark Chapman is in prison after pleading guilty to shooting John Lennon in front of his Manhattan apartment building in 1980. Chapman said he was influenced by "The Catcher in the Rye" and a voice in his head that told him "Do it! Do it! Do it!" Sean Lennon said anyone who believed Chapman was "just some crazy guy who killed my dad for his personal interests is insane. I think, or very naive, or hasn't thought about it clearly." Why would the government want his father dead? "He was dangerous to the government. If he had said, 'Bomb the White House tomorrow,' there would have been 10,000 people who would have done it," Lennon said. "These pacifist revolutionaries are historically killed by the government."

The estate of the Washington Redskins owner Jack Kent Cooke has agreed to pay his widow \$20 million to settle her challenge to his will, avoiding a trial that would have revealed embarrassing details about the couple's relationship, sources familiar with the agreement said. The settlement, which has not been ratified in court, provides Marlene Ramallo Cooke with financial security after she was left with nothing in the will that her husband wrote 13 weeks before he died last year. At the same time, the agreement ensures that most of the

estate, estimated at \$500 million to \$825 million, will go to a charitable trust, as Jack Kent Cooke had instructed.

Bruce Willis and Demi Moore won a round in the battle with their former nanny, when a federal judge in Los Angeles threw out a suit filed by Kim Tammhill, who claimed the stars owed her overtime pay for dragging her on trips around the world. Tammhill cared for the actors' three daughters for more than three years. She accused the couple of labor violations, claiming that she was required to go on long trips without receiving additional pay. She also has a case pending in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

## Chance to Belt It Out in London

New York Times Service

LONDON — Ever yearn to sing with the Royal Opera? On Sunday that yearning will be easily fulfilled. The invitation to sing at Barbican Hall has been extended to all comers. "From the pitch-perfect to the self-avowedly tone-deaf," Priced at about \$33, some 2,000 tickets to "Sing With the Royal Opera" are being sold for a day of rehearsals led by Terry Edwards, director of the Royal Opera Chorus, followed by a concert alongside soloists of the chorus and the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House.

Snubbed by the Oscars, Leonardo DiCaprio had no trouble finding fans among MTV viewers. The "Titanic" star was nominated for an MTV Movie Award for best male performance. Samuel L. Jackson will be host of the music network's movie awards show, which will be broadcast June 4. DiCaprio was also nominated with co-star Kate Winslet for best screen duo and for best kiss.

Vaudeville was all the rage when Doris Travis lied about her age to join the Ziegfeld Follies. Now 94, she's pulled out her tap shoes for a return engagement. "I dance the same as I did 75 years ago," Travis said. "Maybe not with the same spring in my foot, but my style hasn't changed. I haven't tried any of these new jazz or rock moves!" She headed to New York this week to join five other former Ziegfeld girls for an AIDS benefit at the New Amsterdam Theatre. She was just 14 when she lied about her age to join the Follies.

After ending her 10-season run as a hard-boiled journalist on "Murphy Brown," Candice Bergen did something unlike her character — she sobbed uncontrollably. She said she had been fine up until the day they taped the last show, "and then it hit — I burst into tears in front of George Clooney." Clooney was making a guest appearance on the final episode of the CBS show. "I just had to walk away," she said. "But we're fine now. We had a great time, a great ride."



Sean Lennon says the government had his father killed.



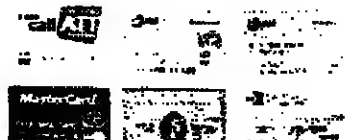
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